

# MILITARY

ILLUSTRATED PRESENT

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JUNE 1991

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MESSINES MINES, 1917  
AUDIE MURPHY, CMH

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# MILITARY ILLUSTRATED

□ PAST & PRESENT □

No. 37

ISSN 0268-8328

June 1991

9

## *Some Examples of the Black Panzer Uniform, 1939-45 (2)*

ANDREW STEVEN & PETER AMODIO

18

## *His Majesty's Canadian Regiment of Fencible Infantry, 1803-16 (1)*

ROBERT HENDERSON

26

## *The Messines Mines, 1917*

IAN GALLACHER

32

## *The British Infantry of the Seven Years' War (2)*

GERRY EMBLETON & PHILIP J. HAYTHORNTHTWAITE

Paintings by GERRY EMBLETON

49

## *Gallery: Audie Murphy*

STEPHEN L. HARDIN

Paintings by KEVIN LYLES

Editorial .....4 On The Screen.....4

The Auction Scene.....5 Classifieds.....5

Reviews.....6,8

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Our cover illustration shows a reconstruction of an NCO of the Panzer Regiment "Grossdeutschland", 1943-44 — see article p.9

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# EDITORIAL

**Robert Henderson**, who contributes the first of a serial article on the historical and recreated Canadian Fencibles of the War of 1812, was born in 1966, and recently graduated from Carleton University, Ottawa with a BA(History). He has worked as a seasonal employee with the Canadian Parks Service for the past seven years; has been a re-enactor with Jessup's Corps of the King's Loyal Americans (American Revolutionary War) since 1984, and of the Canadian Fencibles since the same year, currently holding the rank of corporal. Some of the beautiful photographs supplied for this series are by **Janice Lang**, a photographer with the federal Department of Communications. Janice grew up on a farm on part of the site of the battle of Chateaugay, and studied photography at St. Lawrence College. She has been photographing re-enactors for nine years, and is also a member of several re-enactment groups herself — the King's Royal Regiment of New York, the Canadian Fencibles, and the Maple Leaf Up group of World War Two re-enactors.

Our piece on the Messines mines is



**Robert Henderson**

by **Ian Gallacher**. Born in 1934, he left a teaching career four years ago to write full time. A former member of the RAF Regiment, his particular interests have led him to contribute to many aviation magazines, but he also researches military and social history more generally. He lives in Cornwall; and his first book, on Cornish seafaring folk of the 1870s, is due out next year.

## Errata

In 'MF' No.35, p.27, top caption, we (not author Jim Moran) incorrectly



**Ian Gallacher**

identified the helmet as an MIC. It is in fact the Marine Corps paratrooper's leather jump helmet worn underneath a standard M1 steel helmet. Our apologies to author and readers.

## Caen Militaria Meet

Through a postal mix-up we were unable to carry an advertisement from Alain Cartry alerting readers to a major militaria meet and sale, with a World War Two theme, being held on Sunday 2 June in the Place du Marché, Cabourg, Caen, Normandy. We run

this notice in the hope that the first eager buyers of this issue may have time to cross the Channel for this major event. Those who have visited Normandy before will know that much interesting militaria can be found at such events.

## Brussels Military Miniature Competition

With rather more time in hand, we note that on 7/8 September the 12th Brussels European Competition is being held by the Société Belge des Figurinistes at Salle 'Aurore', 772 Chaussée de Mous, 1070 Brussels, Belgium; this is on the corner of Avenue Frans Van Kalken, above 'Delhaise'; take exit 16 from the Brussels ring road west. It is open 4pm-7pm on the 7th, followed by drinks and supper (reservations required in advance); and 10am-6pm on the 8th. Competition entries must be in by 8 September. There will be the usual mix of club stands, exhibition, commercial stands, and an exchange market. The secretary of the SBFF, Glt. Vermeesen, can be contacted at Avenue Theo Verbeeck 15, B-1070 Bruxelles, Belgium.

## Video Releases to Rent:

### 'The Memphis Belle'

(Warner Home Video)

In spite of the intensive Gulf War news coverage, television broadcasting companies considered it necessary to protect public sensibilities by postponing several war-related films. The policy adopted by the BBC was curiously inconsistent: *Carry on Up the Khyber* was replaced by *Carry on Cowboy*; but Andrzej Wajda's grim trilogy about the Polish resistance in the Second World War — *A Generation* (1954), *Kanal* (1957) and *Ashes and Diamonds* (1958) — was broadcast as scheduled. Video companies, ever fearful of the wrath of the tabloids, also postponed the release of several titles. However, the cessation of hostilities has encouraged Warner Home Video to release Michael Carron-Jones' *The Memphis Belle* (1990). The film was based on William Wyler's acclaimed 1944 documentary, which told the story of the first crew of a B-17 Flying Fortress of the US 8th Army Air Force to achieve its total of 25 missions over enemy territory.

Co-producers David Puttnam and Catherine Wyler, the daughter of William, utilised an old RAF airfield at Binbrook in Lincolnshire, where the surrounding countryside bore some resemblance to Basingbourn in East Anglia, seen in the original film. They assembled just five B-17s; three from Europe and two from the USA. One crashed during the filming; fortunately there were no fatalities, but the aircraft was sadly a write-off. The lack of available P-47 Thunderbolts made it necessary to use P-51 Mustangs to represent escort fighters, although they were not used until some months after the film was set. In addition, three Hispano Bucher HA.1112s were used to represent Messerschmitt Bf 109s. Special effects and optical processes were used to multiply the number of aircraft seen in the air; on the ground their numbers were augmented by scale models and skilfully painted two-dimensional

dummies made of timber and canvas.

The film opens on 16 May 1943 at an 8th Air Force base in England. The crew of the *Memphis Belle*, led by Captain Dennis Derringer (Matthew Modine) are disappointed to learn that what they hope will be their last mission will be over heavily-defended Bremen. They are unaware of the forthcoming celebration being organised for them by the cynical PR officer Derringer (John Lithgow), for the purposes of morale-boosting publicity. The second half of the film portrays the raid, during which the young crew have flak, German fighters, and a second bombing run over the initially obscured target.

The young American actors correctly reflect the age profile of the original crew. The names of the crew have been fictionalised, as have many of the incidents portrayed in the film. Virtually all the film has been specially shot; grainy black and white camera-gun footage of stricken Fortresses is only inserted during air argument between Derringer and the squadron commander (David Strathairn) about the human impact of the high losses.

In spite of occasional inaccuracies, a considerable amount of effort has clearly been made to ensure authenticity. Purists will quibble about the amount of incident crammed into the second half of the film; however, this film has to please a mass audience for whom the Second World War has little or no relevance. The result is entertainingly old-fashioned, and a worthy successor to such classics as Henry King's *Twelve O'Clock High* (1947).

## Video Releases to Buy:

### 'B-17 The Flying Fortress'

(Screen Entertainment)

### 'Secret Weapons of World War Two'

(Screen Entertainment)

# ON THE SCREEN

## 'The Mythic Hitler'

(Screen Entertainment)

## 'U-Boat: Wolfpack'

(Screen Entertainment)

## 'Night Bombers'

(DD Distribution)

Screen Entertainment have released four World War Two documentaries under the collective title *The Second World War Series*. B-17 *The Flying Fortress* charts the development of the famous American bomber. There are interviews with several crew members who flew with the 8th Air Force in daylight raids over Germany. The archive footage is in both black and white and colour, the latter being taken from Wyler's documentary. *The Mythic Hitler* poses the question, 'Who was Hitler?'. Opinions are given by Simon Wiesenthal, who determined hunter of Nazi war criminals; William L. Shirer, author of *The Nightmare Years* and *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*; and James P. O'Donnell, author of *The Bomber*.

*U-Boat: The Wolfpack* features some interesting film of the construction of U-boats, as well as more familiar footage of their exploits at sea. The programme emphasises the exploits of U-boats along the east coast of America, and includes film of the American coastline allegedly taken through a U-boat periscope. Those interviewed include former U-boat captain Herbert A. Werner. *Secret Weapons of World War Two* concentrates mainly on German inventions, particularly the V1 and V2 rockets, and the Me262 and Me163 fighters. Some consideration is also given to the race to build the first atomic bomb. There are contributions from David Irving, author of *The Man's Man*, and Dr. R.V. Jones, British scientific advisor to MI6 between 1939 and 1946. Each programme contains archive footage; but

with a running time of less than 25 minutes they are not long enough to do their interesting subjects full justice.

*Night Bombers* is a one-hour documentary thought to be the only surviving colour film of an RAF operation in World War Two; it tells the story of a night raid by Bomber Command on Berlin during the winter of 1943-44. Like *The Memphis Belle*, the film concentrates on one aircraft, V-Victor, and its crew led by Flt. Lt. Claudier (called 'Harris' in the film). The film was made, photographed and directed by Air Cdre. H.I. Cozens, CB, AFC, who by virtue of being station commander at RAF Helmswell at the time was not subjected to the usual restrictions.

The film shows in some detail the preparation for the raid, including briefing, and arming the Lancasters with their payload of bombs. The second half deals with the raid itself. Some of these sequences were staged: Cozens cut open the fuselage of a crashed Lancaster to film night interiors. Cozens also took off in the station Airspeed Oxford, flying alongside V-Victor to obtain a remarkable shot of the heavily-laden bomber lurching into the air. This presentation has much additional footage, added sound effects and a commentary by Brian Johnson. Some readers of 'MF' may remember Johnson's BBC TV programme *Bombers*, which included lengthy extracts from both this film and Wyler's *The Memphis Belle*.

\* \* \*

We have had enquiries from overseas readers following our enthusiastic review in 'MF' No.36 of the three-tape set of Boardwalk's immortal *War and Peace*. It is produced by Hendring Ltd., whose address is Unit 8, Northfields Prospect, Pymsey Bridge Rd., London SW18 1PE, UK.

**Stephen J. Greenhill**

# THE AUCTION SCENE

For many years the auction world retained an air of old world courtesy — of dabbles in the fringe of the commercial world, and of pedants devoted to the study and identification of things of beauty. It was a world to some extent isolated from the sordid realities of life. Today it still retains some of these qualities; but a new force has entered the auction world generated by the roaring 1980s, the switchback of boom and recession. The new force is accountability.

No longer is the love of the chase or the delight of locating a treasure sufficient. The balance sheet and cost efficiency are now the dominant forces; and efficiency means looking at every item of expenditure. It means producing balance sheets for each operation, setting costs, effort and profit against each other, and ruthlessly ditching any operation which fails to meet certain criteria. Evidence of this was to be seen in the redundancies at the two big houses, Sotheby's and Christie's, around Christmas.

Another development is a balance sheet of sale and return. The argument goes that if an object would only so many pounds is sold then the cash return is not really worth the time, effort and resources involved. The outward manifestation of this caution is the raising of the cut-off level of objects accepted for sale; anything of a lesser value will just not be taken in. The effect of this policy, laudable though it is in accounting terms, must be bewildering for the public. Picture the scene at the counter of the auction rooms: a potential vendor brightens as the treasure brought in for valuation is priced at, say, £400, only to be told by the assistant that they cannot sell it as it is not valuable enough — and for some types of object the no-sell figure runs into thousands. The common idea of the auction houses being 'stuck up' receives another boost.

However, all is not gloom; there are fringe benefits to be had from this system of working — but not for the big rooms. The crestfallen visitor may now well try one of the smaller rooms, feeling that they may be more sympathetic; and indeed, unknown to him, the cut-off value here will be much lower. The result will be a boost for less well-known rooms.

Kent Sales is one of the beneficiaries of this effect, and this year has seen a big increase in their turnover not only in quantity but also in quality. This year Tony Marriot-Smith, the jovial director of the sale rooms, has noted an increase of 25 per cent in sales — and this is for a room that does not have bidders present. Kent Sales work on a tender system. The catalogue includes estimates with each lot, and bidders send in a tender form stating their top offer. When all envelopes are opened the top tender is the purchaser — but not necessarily at that price; the actual buying price is that of the next lower tender plus ten

per cent. Thus if the top tender is £200 and the one below is £100, the purchase price will be £110 (subject to any reserve placed on the object by the vendor).

Kent Sales' gain in volume and quality must be repeated in other smaller rooms, and the restrictions imposed on low-priced items must mean considerable problems for those responsible for getting business for the bigger rooms. It is not inconceivable that in a few years the bigger rooms will be reducing their number of yearly sales and holding larger, more expensive sales of top quality objects only.

Another potential danger is to the collecting world as a whole. Life has become more difficult for all collectors as prices rise; but if the auction houses concentrate on the more expensive objects one source of supply for the small collector has diminished. The smaller dealer will find it more difficult to acquire stock, and this will produce a knock-on for the collector. Collectors of badges, uniforms and similar lower priced items will find it increasingly difficult to acquire material. This could well produce a lack of interest; the number of collectors may decline, and with it will come a loss of national heritage and a loss of knowledge. Much of the study of military history and equipment has been carried on by those whose interest was first aroused by a badge or similar evocative item. It could well be that the smaller rooms will prove the saviour; and then, as their sales rise, who knows? They too may raise their cut-off level...

In the last Kent Sale on 1 March only 20 per cent of the objects realised more than £100, which must encourage support from the smaller collector, although many items made good prices. Top price, £1,330, went to a Nazi SA High Leader's Honour dagger. The popularity of headhairs with collectors was emphasised by the £385 paid for a Waffen-SS peaked service cap; a World War I steel helmet fetched £155, and another with attached mail face-protection made £150; and a German M1918 helmet designed to be worn with earphones sold for £215.

There is at least one gleam of hope for collectors, unfortunately only rumoured at the moment. It seems that the proposed European harmonisation of firearms legislation is unlikely to be as drastic as first reports suggested. Nothing will be certain until the decrees are actually passed by the EEC, but things have improved, partly due to the strenuous efforts of the firearms lobby. Perhaps the shock of the proposed legislation may ensure that in future the firearms lobby will continue to work together; in the past it has been much too common for the various factions to be self-centred and concerned only with their own particular disciplines.

Frederick Wilkinson

# LETTERS



Battle Jerkins ('M' No.29)

Following my articles on the 1942 Battle Jerkin and skeletal assault on 'Bren' harness, a very rare white version of the latter has turned up. It is identical in every detail to the brown canvas version, early pattern (without cord and eyelet adjustment), apart from being made in white material. The only marking is 'Small' pinned on the inside of the waist band at the rear — which suggests that it must be part of an order large enough for the three standard sizes to have been made up in white. Many thanks to Mr. D. Larkin for access to this rare piece, and for the time he made available.

Ian Sadler  
63 Manvers Rd.  
Westbridford  
Notts.

## Officer's Pattern boots

In No.30, page 23, illustration 2, the boots illustrated worn by the officer of

30 Assault Unit are not despatch rider's boots, but officer's pattern brown high-top boots. The former were made of black leather and have three straps with buckles; the latter are half an inch shorter than the 'Don R' type, made of brown leather, and have the two straps shown in the painting. They are English-made, and date from 1944.

W.E. Storey  
116 Murphy Rd.  
Petawawa, Ontario  
K8H 3A2  
Canada

## Maiwand 1880

I was very interested in Michael Bailhoir's article ('M' No.17). Your readers might like to know that there is another contemporary illustration of Maiwand in existence. It is an engraving by W.H. Overend, pinned on the front cover of the *Illustrated London News* on 7 August 1880. Entitled 'The War in Afghanistan: At Bay', it shows a small group of soldiers surrounded by Ghazis. The men are presumably of the 66th Regt. making their last stand outside Khig at the end of the battle. The 1st Bn. The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berksbire & Wiltshire) still celebrate the stand of the Last Eleven at Maiwand annually as a Regimental Day (when others being Ferozeshah and Tofek).

Major J.K. Tanner  
B Coy.  
1st Bn. The Staffordshire Regt.  
BFPO 38

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# REVIEWS

**'The Atlas of the Crusades'** edited by Jonathan Riley-Smith: Times Books; 192 pp.; 117 maps & plans; 10 architectural reconstructions; time-line; glossary; index; £19.99

Now and then a reviewer receives a book about which he can say nothing bad: *The Atlas of the Crusades* is one of those rare occasions. Scholars and enthusiasts alike must have been waiting for this book, and the result is something that anyone interested in the Crusades, medieval or military history or even specifically Islamic history must obtain. Naturally, however, greater prominence is given in Western European Crusaders than to their Muslim or Byzantine contemporaries. Not only are the Middle Eastern Crusades covered, but also the Iberian Reconquista, the Northern (Baltic) Crusades, various pseudo-Crusades within Europe, later medieval Crusades against the Ottoman Turks, and even Renaissance campaigns that were graced with the title of Crusade. In fact almost any event which had any claim to being a Crusade seems to be included in this excellent atlas.

The editor, who is himself a leading Crusader scholar, has brought together contributions from an impressive array of specialists. The maps are superb both in content and presentation. The maps are detailed or specialised among them include information that has previously been buried in obscure publications, while the reconstructions of castles, religious buildings, fortified farmsteads, cities, etc., are equally good. The book also includes a selection of colour photographs of locations, *objets d'art* and so on; their presence, however, tends to give greater visual impact rather than adding a great deal of new information. The text, though inevitably limited, is wide-ranging, and adequately supplements the maps which remain the primary — and very convincing — reason to buy this book. **DN**

**'Henry VIII and the Invasion of France'** by Charles Crickshank; Alan Sutton; 193 pp.; 49 illus.; index; biblio.; £16.95

First published in 1969 as *Army Royal*, this book deals in detail with Henry VIII's 1513 expedition in France. Although generally remembered only for the so-called 'Battle of the Spurs', this campaign was in fact a vast undertaking, involving what was probably the first English army assembled during the 16th century.

Drawing on the rich primary source material available, the author provides a comprehensive study of all aspects of the campaign: from camp life and discipline, to the siege and capture of Therouanne and Tournai. Details of England's six-year occupation of the latter town are also included. The late Dr. Crickshank did not confine himself to reference sources relating specifically to this campaign, but garnered his evidence from throughout the era; consequently this work has much relevance to the study of this period of military history in general. It is well organized, being divided into twelve chap-

ters covering separate aspects of the campaign. By cleverly marshalling his facts, however, the author simultaneously maintains a smooth chronological narrative flow. It is a pity that no battle truly worthy of the name took place, as it would have been interesting to see Dr. Crickshank's treatment of it. One further point that readers of *Atf* might bear in mind is that the field of uniform and equipment is not one which the author attempted to cover.

This reprint is part of an 'Illustrated History Series': it is unfortunate, therefore, that the illustrations are rather disappointing. Admittedly the subject is not blessed with a vast amount of relevant pictorial source material; however, some good opportunities have been missed by the picture researchers, and several items of obvious relevance have been included. Worse still is the murky standard of reproduction of some of these illustrations. It must be said, however, that these drawbacks in no way devalue the text; they are something of an 'extra' anyway, as the original edition possessed no illustrations at all. Consequently, students of the period should be thankful that someone has seen fit to reprint this unique work. **PC**

**Osprey Men-at-Arms series, all 48pp, c.40 b/w illus., 8pp col. illus.; p/bk, £5.99.**

## Recent publications:

Something extremely odd has happened to this series. It's always unsettling when an old friend suddenly changes his appearance, and we should resist the temptation to criticise change unthinkingly. All the same... While the basic content is unchanged, the design and typography have been shaken up. The rather dignified and archaic format has gone all 'new brutalist' — heavy sans-serif type for headlines; in some cases an apparently pointless use of smaller photographs that space seems in demand; and an ugly and confusing new layout for the captions. The changes seem to be dictated by a wish to match the format of the new Osprey *Campaigns* series — understandable from a marketing viewpoint. This reviewer finds them unattractive, but that's a personal view. They still represent good value for money; and the colour plates are still in the familiar format.

**MAA 231 'French Medieval Armies 1000-1300'** by David Nicolle, plates Angus McBride. The usual concise study, fitting neatly into sequence with previous titles in the now extensive list of some two dozen MAA and Elite medieval books. The text is divided into major sections on Northern and Southern French Armies, sub-divided under the various types of troops, and one on Strategy and Tactics. All the subjects one would expect to find are covered in one section or another, giving a clear picture of the nature and capabilities of these armies. The monochrome pictures are the usual good mix of manuscript illustrations, satirical, architecture, and line drawings. The plates are beautiful, colourful, detailed, full of character (and in one case spoilt

by an inexplicably placed caption). In Mr. McBride's paintings there is always something going on — a clear relationship between the different figures, which lifts them from the ordinary. Recommended. **JS**

**MAA 232 'The Armies of Bolivar and San Martin'** by Terry Hooker and Ron Poulter, plates Ron Poulter. Two researchers long known for their passionate interest in Latin American subjects tell the complex but exciting story of the revolutionary forces which defeated the Spanish colonial garrisons in South America in the 1810s-20s. The armies and battles were on a small scale compared with the Napoleonic campaigns, but were set in a uniquely difficult environment. The text gives a straightforward account of events, and much densely listed information on units and uniforms; the reviewer feels this latter could have been better laid out for quick reference. The involvement of many British mercenary veterans of the Napoleonic wars lends special interest. The plates are very colourful, mixing exotic native styles with basically Napoleonic uniforms, and very clearly painted. Recommended. **JS**

**MAA 233 'French Army 1870-71 France-Prussian War 1 Imperial Troops'** by Stephen Shann and Louis Drlperier, plates Jeffrey Burn. The title is quoted exactly as printed on the cover and title page, in a confusingly unedited gahble. The text is clear and straightforward, concentrating on the composition and character of the army, category by category, rather than in any narrative of events. The monochrome plates include many interesting early photographs, some of which could have been used bigger. The uniform information in the plates' commentaries is thin; the plates themselves are clean and attractive, and capture the flavour of the period as well as showing uniform detail. There are some orders of battle. This is not as detailed a book as uniform specialists would have liked, but is a good introduction, and useful to wargamers.

**'Heroes of the Crimea: the Battles of Balaklava and Inkerman'**; Michael Barthorp; Blandford; 160 pp; illus. throughout; maps; £14.95

The battle of Inkerman, fought on Guy Fawkes' Day 1854, was one of the most desperate actions of the age, but which hitherto has been neglected, perhaps in part due to the confused nature of the combat. It is therefore especially valuable to have a modern, well-researched account of the battle, and doubly welcome in that it has been produced by one of the leading modern authorities, whose work will be familiar to all regular readers of this magazine.

*Heroes of the Crimea* is based to a considerable extent upon the writings of those who were present, and includes, as the better-known precursor to Inkerman, an account of the battle of Balaklava. Wisely, the author has elected to base this section entirely upon the sensations recorded by participants, and does not retrace the well-worn path concerning the blunders which led to the charge of the Light Brigade, which is available in myriad sources; but presents instead an account of the confused

nature of the fighting, which leads up to the main part of the book, the action at Inkerman.

Fought largely without central direction, Inkerman was an action in which all depended upon the calibre of the individual battalion, company, subaltern, NCO and ultimately private soldier; its subterfuge 'the Soldiers' Battle' was entirely justified. Assailed by overwhelming numbers of Russian troops (whose leadership was uninspired), the British units became involved in an extremely desperate, often literally hand-to-hand fight, amid smoke and fog in which battalions, companies and even picquets struggled unaided, often unaware of what was occurring even yards from them. Bereft of support, units and sub-units engaged in what were virtually private battles against hordes of determined Russians. Under such circumstances the decisive qualities included a national feeling which caused the soldiers to believe — some would say, know — that they were more than a match for anyone; the mutual regard between officers and men; and (perhaps above all) regimental pride. The latter, fostered over many years, resulted in the 21st's 'Minden yell' being heard at Inkerman; and caused the cry 'Remember Albuera!' to sustain the 57th. That they beat off the Russian attack is surely a tribute to these factors rather than to any inspirational direction, which was conspicuously lacking above battalion level.

Michael Barthorp has succeeded in producing an account of this battle which is at once attractive to read and clearly comprehensible, the latter no mean achievement given the confusion of the battle. He highlights what might be regarded as the 'hidden' characteristics of the Crimean army: the fact that modernizations had occurred in the years since Waterloo, and that mutual esteem and respect existed between officers and men — both of which have tended to be concealed by the popular view of the Light Brigade debacle. The illustrations are excellent and chosen carefully.

The conclusions he draws are more relevant than simply as shedding light upon a neglected episode of the Crimean War, especially in a valuable exposition of the reasons why the troops stood and fought in such a desperate position. Parallels are drawn with Wellington's Peninsular army, the 1914 BEF, and the Smith Atlantic Task Force of 1982. The conclusion drawn is that the Crimean army, despite its well-known deficiencies of leadership at the highest level, was a very remarkable force. Had it not been so, the battle of Inkerman (described so accurately by Basquet as *'quel abattoir'*) could not have been won; and Russell would not have been able to write, with every justification, 'never was a more extraordinary contest maintained by one army since it acquired a reputation in the world's history'.

*Heroes of the Crimea* is thus highly recommended not only as a first-class read and a necessary study for all Crimean enthusiasts, but of relevance to all those with a wider interest in the British Army in general. **PJH**

continued on page 8



# REVIEWS

Continued from page 6

**'Shots in the Sand — An Undergraduate Goes to War'** by Michael Halsted; Gooday Publishers, PO Box 60, East Wittering, West Sussex PO 20 8RA; £14.95 + £1.50 P & P

Despite the vast literature generated by the war in North Africa, Michael Halsted has succeeded in adding a perspective which will be particularly welcomed by old desert hands. Clearly a thoughtful, even introspective young man who took his pleasures and hard knocks as he found them, his diary is less concerned with tactical considerations and the mechanics of war than with his daily life and that of his troop, squadron and regiment. What he says is not only interesting, but also important, as it reflects the outlook of the times; if wars and battles are to be fully understood it is necessary to view them through contemporary eyes rather than in the distorting mirror of hindsight.

Michael Halsted was born into an army family and his university career was interrupted by the war. He commanded a troop in the Queen's Bays, and his first actions took place during Rommel's riposte from El Agheila in January 1942 which induced the hasty and disorganised withdrawal known as 'The Misi Stakes'. He was severely wounded on the first day of the battle of Gazala, losing an eye and part of a foot. Downgraded medically, a year later he was appointed to the British Army Staff in Washington as GSO III to Maj. Gen. Douglas Pratt, who had commanded 1st Army Tank Brigade during the critical counter-attack at Arras in 1940, and later to Maj. Gen. Alec Garhouse. Halsted's duties, as a tank officer with active service experience, were in liaison with US Army Ordnance and American manufacturers, giving designers the benefit of user experience. His work took him all over the United States, including an entertaining interlude in Hollywood, and he was kindly received wherever he went. In 1944 he required honours and, having been invalided out of the Army, became a schoolmaster for a while.

One of the most important sections of the book is devoted entirely to living in and coming to terms with the desert, in which the author obviously enjoyed serving, and to some of the problems facing British armour there. Another is an appendix containing family correspondence relating to the rescue of the Tara's survivors from Bir Hacheim by the Duke of Westminster's armoured cars in World War I — by coincidence, Halsted was only a few miles from the spot when he was wounded.

Different, interesting, entertaining and recommended. **BP**

**'A Frontier Campaign: The Malakand and Buner Field Forces, North-West Frontier, 1897-98'** by Viscount Fincastle and P.C. Elliott-Lockhart; 1990 reprint of 1898 edition; 229 pp.; 16 illus. and one map; £17.95

**'The Afghan War, 1878-80'** by J.H. Anderson, FRHistS; 1991 reprint of 1905 edition; 59 pp.; 8 plans; p/bk, £7.95

Both published by R.J. Leach & Co., 38 Inglemere Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 2BE

These two reprints cover the two chief campaigns fought by the Army in India in the latter half of the 19th century: the Second Afghan War, aspects of which have received some attention in *'MI'*, and some of the operations of what is generally known as the Patkai Revolt of 1897.

The second, smaller book was written as a guide for officers studying for the Staff College 1906 examination. As such it provides a résumé of the causes and course of the Afghan War, illustrated with diagrams of the major actions, and completed by an appendix containing very brief notes on the Afghan forces, some strategic distances, a glossary of native terms, a chronology, and a note on the four members of the Gough family active in the war. The text is interspersed with 'Comments' by the author on the conduct of operations. It is, therefore, a handy booklet of reference; and its 59 pages could serve either as a useful introduction for those who know little but would like to know more of this important and interesting campaign, which has been overshadowed by lesser wars of the period, or as a summary for those who are unable or unwilling to tackle the 300-odd pages of Brian Robson's wrightier, 1986 book on the war, *The Road to Kabul* (reviewed *'MI'* No.6).

The Malakand and Buner operations were the most northerly of the attempts to put down the series of tribal uprisings along the Frontier which began, in pursuit of 'Jehad', in July 1897 and lasted into 1898. The authors of *A Frontier Campaign* were both serving officers: Lord Fincastle was a subaltern in the 16th Lancers, though serving on the staff, and Lieutenant Elliott-Lockhart belonged to that most famous of Indian regiments, the Girders, which took part in the campaign. Fincastle won the Victoria Cross on 17 August 1897 in the Swat Valley — not, as the jacket flap puts it, in the Tirah campaign which did not begin until two months later and occurred some 150 miles from Swat. Both authors, therefore, had first-hand knowledge of what they were writing about, although this book is more a straightforward narrative of the operations, rather than personal reminiscences. It gives a clear and vivid impression of the nature and difficulties of the fighting and is complemented by sixteen illustrations, largely by serving officers, and chiefly depicting locations and terrain. It has an appendix giving details of officer casualties but unfortunately, like the other book under review, no index. As reprints, both works might have benefited from an introduction giving their provenance. Both should be of value to students of the Army in India's chief role in the 19th century — the security of the NW Frontier. **MJB**

**'Military Architecture'** by E.E. Viollet-le-Duc; Greenhill Books; 272 pp.; 157 figs; index; £17.50

Engène Emmanuël Viollet-le-Duc is well known as an architectural historian and author of *Annals of a Fortress*; *Military Architecture* is probably less well known but, in my own view, is the more readable and interesting of the two. The sub-title 'Essays on Military Architecture of the Middle Ages' defines the field, which is a broad overview of the principles of defensive architecture from the Romans to the 16th century.

It should be borne in mind that the first edition of this work appeared in 1860, a time when there was little in print on this subject, and that largely technical monographs, so that Viollet-le-Duc was among the first to produce a readable narrative. By the same token, he was tilling a fairly unworked field, and since his day the amount of scholarship devoted to studying fortification has dared some of his theories. Nevertheless, it is a sound enough introduction to fortification; his drawings and sketches alone are worth the price, illuminating many details which are not usually dealt with summarily in a glossary of terms rather than being explained in detail for the beginner, and also giving us details of many castles and works which subsequent wars have destroyed. For the student seeking to fortification for the first time, this is a useful foundation work; for those more knowledgeable there is still much interest and pleasure to be gained from looking at the subject through 1860's eyes.

**HH**

**'Capbadges of the British Army, 1939-1945 Vol.2: Armour, Artillery, other Arms and Corps'** by G.L.D. Alderson; £8.50 p/bk (but readers stating they have seen this review in *'Military Illustrated'* will receive £1.00 discount). Available from the author at Canny Hill, Pool Lane, Brocton, Stafford, ST17 0TY

One might wonder if there is a need for yet another book, albeit a slim one of just 144 pages, on British Army cap badges; and on reading this work the reviewer is inclined to think not. This, the author's second volume, does not break any new ground, nor does it reveal anything about wartime cap badges that has not already been researched and published in previous books.

Each regiment and corps is dealt with as a separate entity, headed up by a photograph of an appropriate cap badge. The physical description of these badges owes much to the wording in the first edition of *Regimental Badges* by Major T.J. Edwards (Gale & Polden, Aldershot, 1951). Whereas in the main a single cap badge is featured and described, the author fails to distinguish between officers' quality badges and those worn by the rank and file, and is inconsistent in the choice of the quality of the badges he illustrates. No mention is made of the variety of coloured badge backings that were, and still are, worn; this is a serious omission as, in a considerable number of instances, these form an integral feature of the badge. The brief descrip-

tion of the illustrated badge is followed by an equally brief résumé of the regiment or corps history, usually from the date of its raising up to the pre-WW2 period. A limited amount of information is given dealing with the unit's warlike role.

As a slim, pocket-size volume this may well prove to be a handy reference for the not-too-discerning badge collector who only requires a superficial guide on the subject of World War Two cap badges. Unfortunately it cannot be recommended as anything more than that. **BLD**

**'The Illustrated Napoleon'** by David G. Chandler; Greenhill Books; 176 pp.; illus. throughout (inc. colour), maps; £17.50

The name of the author is in itself sufficient recommendation for this splendidly-produced Greenhill volume, for David Chandler is the leading Napoleonic authority of the modern age; but those familiar with his magisterial works, notably *The Campaigns of Napoleon*, should not imagine that the present title (portions of which appeared in the author's *Napoleon*, 1973) is merely an abbreviation or duplication of the other works.

*The Illustrated Napoleon* is an account of Napoleon's military career and methods based upon five main actions (Trafalgar, Austerlitz, Brodnitz, Waterloo) which chart the progress of his military development from emergence to dominance, and their decline and defeat. Supported by excellent maps, this is a good guide to the course of his career; and of equal importance is a section ('Instruments of Power') which covers succinctly the aspects of Napoleon's ability and personality, his tactics and strategy, and the characteristics of the various parts of his army. Finally, there is 'Napoleon's Legacy', a perceptive analysis of his character and use of psychology in what today might be styled man-management, a section alone worth the price of the book. Although this is an ideal introduction to the subject, the use of lesser-known anecdotal material (such as the story of the Emperor's hand being bitten by his mother, who thought him becoming too hanglity), as well as the author's conclusions, make the work of interest to even the most expert of Napoleonic enthusiasts.

In accordance with the title, attention should also be paid to the illustrations, which are reproduced excellently and include extensive use of colour, among them colour reproductions of Joinville's maps and both contemporary and later illustrations. Included in the latter category (some from Sloane's *Life of Napoleon*) is the work of some of the best later 19th century artists (Detaille, Meissonier, de Meybach, Flanng); whilst the contemporary range includes a number seen only rarely, for example a splendid cartoon by Woodward of 'The Giant Commerce overwhelming the Pigmy Blockade', and in colour Lejeune's 'Somosierra' and Isabey's striking profile portrait of Josephine.

At £17.50 this represents remarkable value, and is recommended unreservedly. **PJH**

# Some Examples of the Black Panzer Uniform, 1939-45 (2)

ANDREW STEVEN & PETER AMODIO

The first part of this article ('MF' No. 36) described and illustrated in detail the basic Army issue black armoured vehicle uniform jacket and trousers; the variations of cut observed in photographs and between surviving examples; and the range of insignia applied to the jacket in Army service. This concluding part describes and illustrates the uniform as worn by Waffen-SS and Luftwaffe armoured personnel; and the headgear associated with it in all three services.

## ARMY HEADGEAR

### The Schutzmütze

The first headgear issued specifically for wear with the black uniform was a protective cap termed the Schutzmütze, made in two parts. The protective liner was made of red rubber or thick felt in six segments, lined with oilcloth and covered with black woollen cloth; it had a prominent rubber-padded lower rim, and was pierced by six ventilation holes with large black rubber grommets mid-way up the sides of the skull; there was a leather sweatband inside the rim. Separate from this liner, and pulled over it down to but not covering the padded rim, was a generously cut black woollen beret, usually worn shaped towards the rear. Early examples showed a small 'stalk' of material at the top centre of the crown.

### Centre:

Crew of a self-propelled anti-tank gun of Panzer-Jäger-Abteilung 521, photographed at some date between 1936 and 1940, demonstrating the difficulty of wearing the Schutzmütze with a radio headset. Note, left, the small stalk of material at the top of the beret — which was also known as a Baskenmütze.



The first examples bore only the national cockade surrounded by the Army's oakleaf wreath, the former in metal pinned through the cloth, the latter embroidered in silver-grey or white directly on to the black beret. Almost at once this was replaced by a separately machine-woven badge on black backing, incorporating cockade and wreath. From early 1936 the national eagle and swastika insignia in the usual Army form was added, worn above the wreathed cockade; this was machine-

woven in the usual BeVo style, again in silver-grey (officers' eagle and wreath insignia were in silver thread).

The Schutzmütze was ordered out of use from 15 January 1941.

### Feldmütze M1940

The Schutzmütze was impractical for use with radio head-phones; and the rapid development of German tanks in 1934-39 involved the fitting of radio intercom systems to replace the speaking tubes more generally used in the mid-1930s. While the distinctive Schutzmütze was worn in

front of the turn-up, the latter's diamond-shaped black backing being enclosed by a right-angled chevron (soutache) of 'Russia braid' in the rose pink *Waffenfarbe* of the armoured branch.

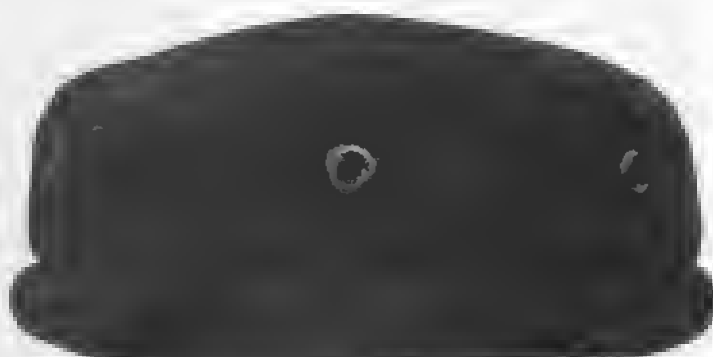
Officers wore a black variant of the M1938 'new style officer's field cap', essentially of the same shape as the other ranks' cap, but in superior materials — sometimes in a doe-skin finish — with a partial leather sweat band inside the front. The eagle insignia was either machine-woven or hand-embroidered in silver on black; the cockade was normally worked as a raised boss of red, black and silver applied directly to the cap turn-up, though flat machine-woven examples were also used. The main distinction of the officer's cap was the application of silver (aluminium) piping 2-3mm wide around the crown edge seam, and to the edge of the front cut-out or scallop of the turn-up. The pink soutache was displayed as on other ranks' caps.

For all ranks the pink soutache was ordered out of use on 10 July 1942; but the order was by no means immediately or universally obeyed, particularly by officers.

General officers wore this cap with gold piping instead of silver. Their insignia were silver before 16 November 1942; on that date the insignia worn on the Schirmmütze — peaked uniform cap — by generals was ordered changed from silver to gold, and thereafter gold equivalents began to appear on

### Below:

Schutzmütze with outer Baskenmütze in place; and removed. On this example the separate insignia are machine-woven in silver; the eagle is the same size as worn on the right breast.







**Above:** Clear angles on the M1938 Offiziersfeldmütze never Probe in its black Panzer form; note also the Army issue pocketless mouse-grey shirt. The Ritterkreuzträger is Major Dr. Franz Bäte, who in this summer of 1943 commanded Pz-Regt. 11, 6.Pz-Div; a highly-decorated officer who won three personal Individual Tank Destruction awards, he later led an ad hoc heavy intervention regiment with dazzling success.

**Right:** M1940 Feldmütze in black woolen material; note single black metal ventilation grommet just above point of turn-up. The national insignia is machine-woven in silver-grey on black, and the Reichskokarde is surrounded by a soutache of pink 'Russia braid'. (Photo: Tom Reeves).

the Feldmütze as well.

#### Einheitsfeldmütze M1943

An order of 11 June 1943 replaced the German soldier's field sidecap by a new soft peaked cap based closely on the designs of the mountain troops' Bergmütze and the tropical Feldmütze worn in Africa, both of which had proved practical and popular. A black version of this new Einheitsfeldmütze was produced at the same time for Panzer personnel.

It became the most widely worn field headgear for all ranks by the last year of the war, but was by no means universal; and an order of 8 June 1944 specifically left the choice between the old and new patterns of black field cap to the



troops themselves.

The cap, of the familiar 'ski-cap' shape, had a cloth-covered peak slightly longer than that of the Bergmütze. The turn-up flap was functional — i.e. it could be turned down to protect the neck, cheeks and jaw in



**Above:** Major von Wietersheim of Pz-Regt. 'Grossdeutschland', 1943, wears an M1938 offiziersfeld cap with unusual silver cord edging, instead of the normal smooth piping.

cold weather — and was fastened at the front by two small buttons usually of pebbled metal in silver-grey finish, but late in the war occasionally of black plastic (or even replaced by a small buckle).

The insignia applied to the M1943 cap varied. The normal BeVo eagle and cockade

insignia were woven together on a truncated triangular black backing, the former in silver-grey or mouse-grey; the sides of the triangle were usually cut and folded under, leaving the insignia on a visible 'T'-shaped backing which was sewn to the front of the crown; the triangle was sometimes applied uncut, however.

Officers wore either a silver machine-woven version of this one-piece insignia; or a separate hand-embroidered silver wire eagle above a cockade boss; or even the pressed white metal eagle badge from the crown of the service dress Schirmmütze pinned above a cockade boss. In many cases the larger size of the hand-embroidered or metal eagles meant that the cockade was hidden by the front part of the cap turn-up, and in such cases the cockade often seems to have been left off altogether, or



**Left:** M1943 Einheitsfeldmütze of an Army Panzer officer. Note silver crown seam piping; and silver machine-woven national insignia and cockade worked together on a black artificial silk backing cut and folded in a T-shape. Two ventilation grommets are sometimes found on these caps. (Photo: Tom Reeves).

overlaid by the swastika of the national insignia.

Officers' M1943 caps were piped in silver around the edge of the crown seam (in gold for general officers). It is not unusual to find photographs showing officers with additional silver piping along the top edge of the turn-up in the broad frontal cut-out, though this presumably prevented the turn-up being unbuttoned and folded down for use.

Perhaps the rarest variant of the black M1943 cap is seen in photographs of some members of the Tiger tank unit schwere Panzer-Abteilung 505 in Russia in winter 1943; it is an exact black copy of the tropical field cap — i.e. with a false turn-up merely indicated by a doubling of material stitched down all round — complete with a frontal soutache of pink *Waffenfarbe* round the cockade; an officer wears it with silver piping round the crown and in the front cut-out of the false turn-up.

#### General service headgear

Officers, and less frequently senior NCOs, wearing black uniforms in the field made considerable use of two types of peaked caps forming part of the field-grey service uniform.

The officer's *Schirmmütze* ('peaked cap') or *Dienstmütze* ('service cap') was quite often worn in conjunction with the black uniform, though less so during the last year of the war. This had a stiffened field-grey crown, dark green band and stiff black fibre peak, and bore doubled silver chin cords secured by two small silver pebbled buttons. For all ranks below general officer the piping round the crown seam and both edges of the band was in pink *Waffenfarbe*. On the front of the crown the national eagle and swastika insignia was applied either hand-embroidered in silver wire on dark green backing, or as a pressed white metal pin-on badge. On the band a metal cockade was surrounded by an oak wreath, either hand-embroidered in silver wire on dark green backing, or in pressed white metal. General officers' caps were piped in gold rather than

*Waffenfarbe* but bore silver insignia until these were changed to gold by an order of 16 November 1942, effective 1 January 1943.

Other ranks' peaked caps, as sometimes seen worn in the field with the black uniform by senior NCOs, were of the same basic design and colouring though of inferior materials and cut. A black leather chinstrap secured by black buttons replaced the officers' cords; and both insignia were of pressed white metal.

The 'officer's old style field cap' — *Offizierfeldmütze älterer Art* — was intended to be discontinued in April 1942, but in practice proved so popular that it continued to be worn throughout the war, though less widely after the general introduction of the M1943 *Einheitsfeldmütze* which shared some of its practical advantages.

Of the same colouring and general shape as the *Schirmmütze*, the old style field cap had a crown of smaller proportions; lacked interior stiffening, chin cords or strap; and had a soft leather peak without a moulded rim. Both eagle and wreathed cockade insignia were machine-woven in silver thread on dark green artificial silk backings. Branch-colour or general officers' piping was displayed as on the *Schirmmütze*. Often called by collectors 'crusher caps', surviving examples have usually seen hard service. Their unstiffened crown and soft peak allowed them to be folded up and stuffed in any convenient cranny of a tank turret, and photographs suggest that an elaborately 'distressed' appearance was favoured, as imparting front line credibility.

#### Unit cap insignia

In the last 18 months of the war the wearing (usually on the left side of M1940, M1943, and 'old style officers' field caps') of tolerated, semi-official regimental or divisional insignia became more common. These are not recorded in any detail, but photographs suggest that they were not unusual. Colours are usually unknown, but most were probably made

at unit level from shell-case metal. Some known examples are as follows:

1. *Panzer-Division* White metal oakleaf, about 4.2cm long, worn vertically or slanted backwards, possibly by officers only, from late 1944.

22 & 23. *Pz-Divs.* Like the above, versions of the formation's tactical sign: arrows, about 4cm long, worn slanted forwards, with respectively two and one short bars across

the base of the unfletched shaft.

24. *Pz-Div.* Tactical sign: stylised rider leaping left out of broken circle.

116. *Pz-Div.* Widely photographed, and perhaps worn by most personnel: oval grey-metal badge, 2.8cm long, with raised rim, raised greyhound leaping left over stylised groundline with three tussocks, the background filled in field-grey; from autumn 1943.

#### Colour photographs overleaf:

(A) and front cover: Late-war jacket of an *Unteroffizier* of the *Pz-Regt.* 'Grossdeutschland' worn in two reconstructions. The collar is unpiped; the shoulder straps of slip-on tongue-and-brille type, bear white-metal 'G.D.' cyphers (inaccurate for this rank, but the kind of affrication far from unknown on wartime uniforms, particularly among senior NCOs). (A) illustrates clearly the fine white Belv breast eagle and the divisional ruff-rib. Pinned through thread loops on the left breast are the Iron Cross 1st Class, a *Panzer Battle Badge* and a *Wound Badge* in silver; the ribbon of the *Wimmi 1941/42* Medal is stitched into the lapel button-hole. On the cover the jacket is worn with an other ranks' M1943 *Einheitsfeldmütze* with a man 'mouse' grey national insignia and tricolour cockade of Belv quality, machine-woven on a one-piece black artificial silk backing. Note plastic buttons on the turn-up. At (A) it is worn with the M1940 *Feldmütze* with the mouse grey eagle and separate cockade, and a *Waffenfarbe* soutache. Comparison of surviving items shows a wide variation in the shade of pink between *Panzer* distinctions after different degrees of wear and fading.

(B) Reconstruction: late-war jacket of a *Hauptmann* of 130. *Panzer-Lehr-Division*. The collar is unpiped, and the patch edge piping faded. The worn-in shoulder straps now bear white-metal rank 'pips' and 'L' cypher. By regulation these should be gilt brass, plated or gilt light metal or, later in the war, of light metal or zinc alloy painted, lacquered or galvanised in gold colour. Late in the war these were hard to acquire at the front, and also discoloured rapidly. Officially the cypher should have been covered with a black wool slip-over loop when on active service, but the regulation was often ignored. The jacket is worn here with a good M1938 officer's field cap with aluminium wire piping and insignia; note the cockade worked as a boss.

(C) Reconstruction: officer, *Pz-Regt. 24*. The 'old style officer's field cap', here a fine example in field-

grey with a very dark green band, and Belv machine-woven insignia in silver thread on dark green. It is piped at crown and band in the cavalry's golden-yellow *Waffenfarbe* retained at all positions of the black uniform by personnel of 24. *Pz-Div.*, formed in late 1941 from 1. *Kavallerie-Division*. (Photos: authors' collection).

(D), (E) Two views of a classic *Waffen-SS Panzer* jacket, here bearing the insignia of an *SS-Hauptsturmführer* of *SS-Pz-Regt. 1 'Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler'*. Note the small, rounded lapels and the vertical front closure — cf button plating with (F), and with Army jacket illustrated in 'M' No. 36 p. 11. The silver-corded collar bears silver-corded patches of service and rank, the runs hand-embroidered in wire. The slip-on shoulder straps bear the two gilt 'pips' of rank and the gilt 'LAH' cypher, and have double pink-on-black underlay. The SS sleeve eagle is hand-embroidered; below it is a hand-embroidered *RZM* pattern *Adolf Hitler* ruff-rib in *Smurrlin* strip. The grey artificial silk lining bears conventional swamping. Some jackets of this type have a fourth small 'reposition' button high on the right breast and shoulder. (Photos: Tom Rieves).

(F), (G) Two views of a classic late-war Army-cut jacket bearing the insignia and distinctions of *Pz-Regt. 'Hermann Göring'*. The collar is piped white; the *Unteroffizier's* shoulder straps have white *Waffenfarbe*, though they should have had *Panzer* pink piping after the change of collar patch design to these plain white examples and the relevant order of April 1943. Such modifications are commonly seen: a modification of insignia changes was ordered at a time when the formation was heavily engaged at the front, and obtaining replacement shoulder straps would have been a low priority. The other ranks' divisional ruff-rib follows the August 1942 regulation. The breast eagle is in the correct white-on-black form for *Panzer* uniforms. Note interior details, including grey herringbone lining material, and differently shaped pockets. (Photos: Tom Rieves).



A



B

D







C



F



E



G

SS-Sturmhaupführer (Major) Max Wünsche, soon after his award of the Knights Cross, 28 February 1943, as CO of I Abteilung, SS-Pz-Regt. 1 'LAH'; he later commanded the Panzer regiment of the 12. SS-Pz-Div. 'Hitlerjugend' in Normandy. Over a private-purchase black shirt (often favoured by Waffen-SS officers over the issue mouse-grey and field-grey shirts) he wears a good example of the privately tailored SS Panzer officer's jacket. Note that although the lapels are small, they retain the Army shape. The shoulder straps are of slip-on rather than sewn-in type. The collar patches of organisation and rank are edged with silver cord, as is the jacket collar.

*Schwere Panzer-Abteilung 503*  
Left-facing silhouette of Tiger or King Tiger rank, depending on equipment of particular companies, crudely cut out, on left side of Feldmütze; 1943-44.

Death's-head badges seem also to have been occasionally added to the left side of M1940 Feldmützen, with no obvious significance

#### WAFFEN-SS UNIFORM

The SS equivalent of the black Panzer uniform appeared in the immediate pre-war years with the addition of armoured car companies to the reconnaissance units of the SS-Verfügungstruppen. Photographs are rare; and it is hard to tell if initial issue was from Army stocks, or reveals the differences normally associated with SS manufacture. The most noticeable difference in wartime photographs and examples is the smaller size of the lapels; in many, but far from all cases, their rounded corners; and a vertical, rather than slanted front closure to the jacket. Most SS jackets also retain the single-piece back panel rather than the central vertical back seam found in many Army jackets.

This is a vexed question; and the variety of detail difference found in photographs suggests that it is vain to try to draw any rigid conclusions. Many, but not all, officers' privately tailored jackets show the small rounded lapels; many, but not all other ranks' jackets also show this feature; but other photographs of all ranks show collar and lapels identical to Army issue, in conjunction



with the more vertical closure.

The same lack of uniformity applies to the early use of Army-style pink piping round the collar, and the collar patches, of SS jackets. Some pre-war and 1940 photographs clearly show the absence of any collar or patch piping. Others show pink-piped patches worn on apparently unpiped collars by men of the reconnaissance unit of the 'Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler'; and in this unit there were at least individual examples of NCOs wearing silver cord collar *Tresse* on the black jacket. At least one pre-war photograph shows an officer of the 'Germania' regiment's reconnaissance element wearing silver cord piping round the collar of his black jacket, and the usual silver-corded collar patches.

It is safe to state that by the time that Panzer units were fielded by the expanding Waffen-SS formations in 1941-42 the pattern was generally established which would persist throughout the war: other ranks and NCOs wore the black jacket without collar pip-

ing, and with conventional, unpiped collar patches; officers wore both collars and patches edged with silver cord. The only major exception to this practice appears to have been SS-Pz. Regt. 5 in the 'Wiking' Division, where pink-piped collars and patches seem generally to have been worn by both other ranks and officers, at least until late 1943 and possibly thereafter.

There seem to have been no significant differences between the black *Feldhose* of Army and Waffen-SS manufacture. Late examples of the latter have the two-button flap on the front pockets, and external belt loops.

#### Insignia

At least one photograph of an armoured car crewman in France, 1940, with the SS-Verfügungs-Division shows the absence of collar patches; but normally, from the mid-1930s, the standard SS patches were applied to the black jacket — silver-grey on black SS runes on the right collar (or the SS jawed death's-head in the

armoured element of what became 3. SS-Pz-Div. 'Totenkopf'); rank patches in silver-grey braid/white-metal on black on the left; officers' equivalent patches in silver on black, with silver cord edging.

The SS shoulder straps of branch and rank as worn on the black jacket resembled Army straps in design. Other ranks wore black woollen straps piped pink at the edges; senior NCOs, black straps piped pink and edged with silver *Tresse*, with appropriate white-metal rank 'pips'. Officers' straps differed in having the SS double underlay: *Waffenfarbe* pink, over black. The usual silver 'Russia hraid' strap facings bore yellow-metal rank 'pips'. The armoured elements of what became 1. SS-Pz-Div. 'Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler' wore a central shoulder strap cypher: 'LAH' entwined, in yellow-metal for officers, white-metal for senior NCOs, and pink for other ranks. From 1940 black slip-over loops were provided bearing the other ranks' cypher, rather than embroidery directly on to the black wool strap.

The SS national insignia, with the longest feather in the centre of the wing, was worn on the upper left sleeve of the black jacket; it is found in several qualities — machine-woven in silver-grey, more crudely machine-embroidered in silver-grey, and (often superbly) hand-embroidered in silver thread for officers. The full range of appropriate SS divisional cuff-titles were applied to the black jacket: 3.2cm black fabric bands with silver edging top and bottom, bearing titles machine-woven, machine-embroidered or hand-embroidered in silver-grey, matt grey or silver Gothic, black, or (in the case of 1. SS-Pz-Div. 'LAH' and 12. SS-Pz-Div. 'Hitlerjugend') Sütterlin script.

#### Headgear

Early armoured car units were issued the *Schutzmütze*. This bore special badges: a large SS national insignia, above a death's-head, rather crudely machine-embroidered in silver-grey on black.



*SS-Rottenführer of SS-Pz-Regt.5, 5.SS-Pz-Div. 'Wiking', late 1943. He still wears a pink souache round the death's-head badge on his Schiffchen field cap; note also silver braid junior NCO chevrons on left sleeve only, beneath SS national insignia; and 'Wiking' cuff-tile. The most noticeable feature is the pink Army-style piping around the collar, and edging the SS collar patches. While not entirely limited to this regiment, it was a feature seldom seen in other units after 1940; the only surviving example of pink-piped patches seen by the authors were identified to the 'Germania' regiment, and are therefore probably early in date. The 4mm band of pink braid across the butt of the shoulder strap identifies a volunteer for less than 12 years' service.*

A black version of the M1934 SS field cap — Feldmütze (Schiffchen) ä.Art — had been manufactured since 1936 for wear with the black SS uniform of that period; and some photographs show it in use by Waffen-SS armoured personnel, e.g. by

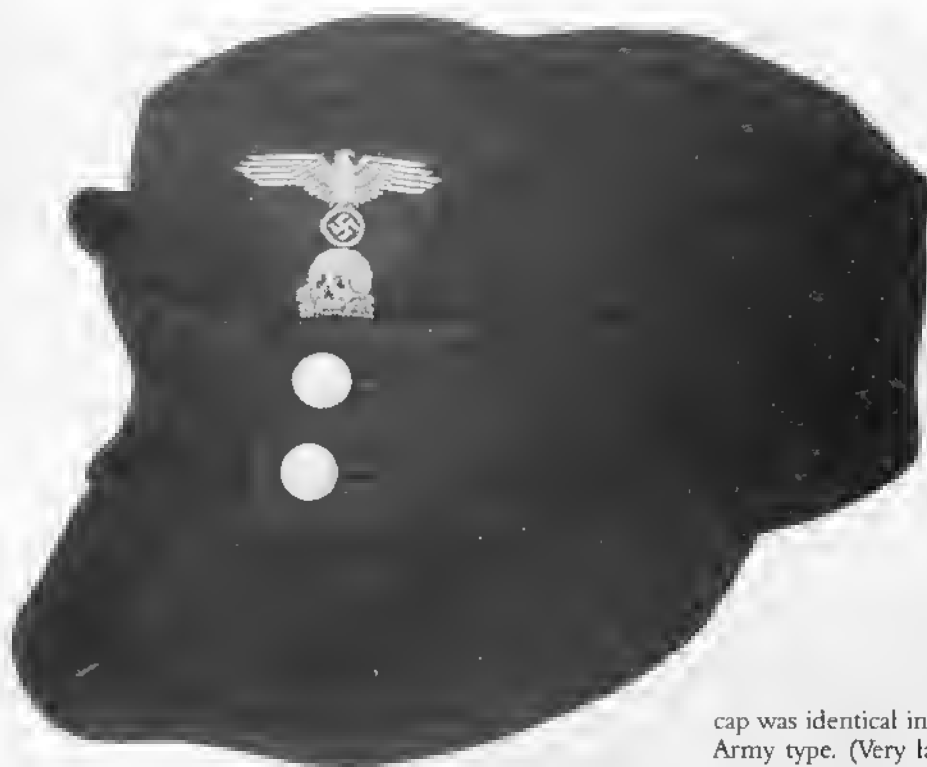
the 'LSSAH' armoured car unit in the Balkans, 1941. It differed from the Army field cap in having a low front and (in at least some examples) a top fold offset right, but had a turn-up with a cut-out front. A white-metal button embossed with a death's-head was sewn to the front of the turn-up; a white machine-embroidered SS eagle on a black triangular backing was sewn to the left side of the turn-up immediately behind the cut-out. From 1939 the addition of a *Waffenfarbe* souitache was ordered.

Officers did not have an authorised field cap prior to December 1939. Many, however, had obtained Army officers' M1938 caps (including the black variant) and replaced the cockade with the white-metal SS death's-head from a service cap. (Partial Army insignia, particularly the Army eagle national insignia, were not uncommon on SS officers' uniform items during the early war years, when the Waffen-SS was expanding rapidly, and many Army officers were transferring into the service.) In December 1939 they were ordered to obtain by 1 January 1940 the new Feldmütze (Schiffchen) für Führer. Produced in black for armoured officers, this followed the shape of the Luftwaffe equivalent, i.e. the turn-up had a smooth curve to the upper edge and did not have a frontal cut-out. The turn-up edge was piped silver. (An order of November 1940 changed this piping to white for all below general officer rank, but was generally ignored.) A machine-woven



*SS-Unterscharführer of I/SS-Pz-Regt.3 'Totenkopf' commanding a PzKpfw V Panther in Russia; the Ausf.A cupola dates the photo not earlier than autumn 1943. He wears good examples of the Schiffchen and the Feldjacke, the latter with noticeably small, rounded lapels (the right one bearing the division's Totenkopf patch) and vertical front closure. The divisional cuff-tile can be seen on the left forearm. Note also the headset, throat microphones, and a whistle-cord passing from a button beneath the right collar point and inside the jacket to the left internal pocket. The Winter 1941/42 Medal ribbon is stitched in the lapel buttonhole.*





silver on black SS national insignia was worn on the front of the crown, and a death's-head on the front of the turn-up, the latter enclosed by a *Waffenfarbe* soutache.

In November 1940 the other ranks' equivalent was ordered into use. This *Feldmütze* (*Schiffchen*) variant differed from the officers' model only in having an unpiped turn-up, and in the quality of the

insignia, which were machine-woven in silver-grey (later, matt grey). The soutache was ordered out of use in September 1942.

In October 1943 the *Waffen-SS* followed the Army in replacing the 'little boat' field cap with the M1943 *Einheitsfeldmütze*; the earlier issue could be retained until worn out. Produced in black for Panzer troops, the M1943

cap was identical in cut to the Army type. (Very late models have only a single button fastening the front of the turn-up). It was piped silver around the crown seam for officers.

Initially the same insignia were worn as on the *Schiffchen*, but with the death's-head on the front of the crown and the eagle on the left side of the turn-up. Later model caps had the depth of the turn-up reduced in front, so that both insignia could be worn on the crown. Subsequently single-piece

*Waffen-SS Panzer other ranks' M1943 cap in black wool. The insignia are machine-woven Belvô quality, in silver-grey on a single black artificial silk backing shaped as a truncated triangle. The turn-up is fastened by the usual pair of pebbled aluminium buttons; there are no ventilation grommets on this late cap. (Photo: Tom Reeves).*

insignia of reduced size were produced: a small eagle above a small death's-head, machine-embroidered or machine-woven in matt grey on a truncated triangular black backing. There was no officers' silver equivalent. In practice the application of insignia showed many variations, including the use of metal badges from service caps, or combinations of metal and cloth badges.

### General service headgear

As in the Army, the only field-grey headgear tolerated for wear with the black uniform were service caps and 'old style' field caps.

The officer's *Dienstmütze* had a field-grey crown, black velvet band, black vulcanised fibre peak, doubled silver chin cords secured by 13mm pebbled white-metal buttons, and white-metal insignia: the SS eagle pinned to the crown, and the SS jawed death's-head to the band. Initially all officers below general rank wore white piping at the crown seam and band edges. On 10 May 1940 cap piping in *Waffenfarbe* was authorised, only for the order to be rescinded on 5 November 1940. However, large numbers of caps piped in *Waffenfarbe*, including Panzer pink, continued to be worn throughout the war.

The other ranks' model of



*'Officer's old style field cap' in field-grey gabardine with black band, flexible black leather peak, and Waffenfarbe piping (here in Panzer pink), as acquired by many Waffen-SS officers although not a regulation headgear. The aluminium SS eagle is bent by the rough handling it has received. In place of the normal aluminium death's-head this cap has a most interesting personal modification: an embroidered silver badge which appears to have been cut from a left-hand collar patch as worn by some officers during the early expansion of the Totenkopfverbände. It is tempting to identify the cap to SS-Pz-Regt. 3 'Totenkopf'. (Photo: Tom Reeves).*

the peaked service cap, basically a walking-out headgear only, was sometimes seen worn in the field by NCOs. It resembled the officer's cap in all but quality, and in having a black leather chin strap in place of the cords. The metal insignia were often matt grey.

More popular for field use was the M1938 Feldmütze für Unterführer, or NCOs' field cap, the SS equivalent of the Army's 'old style field cap'. In practice it was very often worn, by officers as well as senior NCOs, throughout the war, although officially replaced by the later 'boat-shaped' and 'ski-cap' field caps already described. It resembled the service cap in shape, though with a smaller crown, and a flexible peak covered with

field-grey cloth. It had no stiffening, cords, strap or buttons. Piping was officially white, but examples piped in *Waffenfarbe* continued to be seen throughout the war. The usual insignia were worn in white-metal, but woven or embroidered insignia taken from other uniform items were often seen replacing, or in conjunction with, the metal badges.

#### **LUFTWAFFE UNIFORM**

The Army black vehicle uniform was issued to appropriate personnel of the Luftwaffe's Regiment 'General Göring' during 1937, when a Panzer-Späh-Zug (armoured car troop) was formed within 8. Kradschützen-Kompanie of III/Wach-Batallion 'General Göring'. This sub-unit seems

to have been disbanded in November 1938. When the new Brigade 'Hermann Göring' was formed in France in summer 1942 it included III/Schützen-Regiment 'HG' comprising motorcycle, armoured engineer, anti-tank and tank companies numbered 10 to 13. Enlargement to divisional establishment in October 1942 created a two-battalion Panzer regiment.

Insignia worn on the Army uniform between 1937 and 1942 were as follows. Conventional shoulder straps of rank were worn with the white *Waffenfarbe* piping or underlay identifying 'Hermann Göring' units; but individual examples of shoulder straps with pink piping or underlay are described. Collar

patches were black, rhomboid in shape, and bore white-metal death's-heads exactly as on Army uniform, but were piped white round the edges. The jacket collar was piped white —

*Group of armoured officers of Panzerdivision 'Hermann Göring', probably in Sicily, summer 1943. All wear the white-piped collar patches supposedly replaced by short solid white patches by the order of the previous winter. Two, including Lt. Musil of the Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (left), wear the Feldjacke with Luftwaffe blue-grey service uniform breeches and top boots — a combination not seen in the Army or Waffen-SS, to the authors' knowledge. All wear the Luftwaffe officer's service dress cap. The two at left wear the blue 'General Göring' cuff-title with silver edges and Gothic lettering, supposedly replaced by the block-lettered 'Hermann Göring' title by the order of May 1942, effective that August.*



perhaps edged instead with silver cord by some officers. The Luftwaffe form of the national eagle and swastika insignia was worn on the right breast, initially in grey-white (or silver) on blue-grey backing, later manufactured specially on black backing. The 'General Göring' cuff-title was worn on the right forearm, being officially replaced from August 1942 with the 'Hermann Göring' title (though the earlier title was often retained, particularly by officers).

At approximately the time of the formation of the division in late 1942 the collar patches were ordered changed. The new patch was of the same dimensions as the standard Luftwaffe style, solid white, but still with the pin-on white-metal death's-head.

An order of 4 January 1943 required that the division's white collar patches be piped round the edges in arm-of-service *Waffenfarbe*: i.e. pink for the armoured units. This was rescinded on 2 April 1943, and it is unlikely that it was ever implemented on any scale. Henceforward plain white patches would be worn, arm-of-service *Waffenfarbe* replacing 'HG' white on the shoulder straps only.

In January 1944 an order to the division as a whole forbade the use of the over-visible white collar patches on field uniforms; and during 1944-45 photographs show many armoured personnel wearing the white-metal death's-head pinned directly to the collar of the black jacket. Late photographs also show many jackets lacking the white collar piping.

Generally it should be noted that these complex orders coincided not only with periods when the division was heavily engaged at the front, often dispersed; but also with an influx of Army Panzer personnel to build the new formation, and a consequent shortage of regulation uniforms and insignia. Photographs show combinations of Army and 'HG' Panzer features worn together. Generalising from the particular is unwise with regard to 'Hermann Göring' uniform practice.

### Headgear

The use of the *Schutzmütze* with Luftwaffe insignia in 1937-38 has been described, but no photographic record is known to the authors.

From the re-formation and rapid expansion of armoured units in 1942-43 the normal field headgear was a black *Feldmütze* of Luftwaffe cut (i.e. identical to the *Waffen-SS* M1940), with the Luftwaffe eagle on the front of the crown in grey-white, officially on black backing but very often on Luftwaffe blue-grey; and a red-black-white cockade boss on the front of the turn-up. The turn-up was piped silver for officers, who had silver embroidered insignia. The equivalent Army caps, including examples with retained Army insignia, were not uncommon.

The use of a black M1943 *Einheitsfeldmütze* with similar insignia — presumably often with the single-button turn-up fastening found on many such Luftwaffe caps — is presumed; but the photographic record for the last months of the war is scanty. When it was worn, the Luftwaffe eagle was sometimes applied alone, for lack of space for the cockade. The *Schiffchen* style was certainly still being worn in Italy in 1944.

Officers and senior NCOs were often photographed in the Luftwaffe peaked service cap. This had a grey-blue crown, ribbed black band, black moulded fibre peak; silver cords and silver piping for officers; a black chin strap and white piping for NCOs. The Luftwaffe national insignia, and the Luftwaffe cockade with winged wreath, were displayed on crown and band, in silver hand-embroidery for officers and in grey pressed metal for NCOs. **MI**

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## His Majesty's Canadian Regiment of Fencible Infantry, 1803-16(1)

ROBERT HENDERSON

**I**n 1984 a small group of re-enactors from Eastern Ontario decided to recreate the Canadian Fencibles — a regiment which overcame early difficulties to prove itself, during the War of 1812-14, the equal of British line regiments by helping defeat United States forces at Chateaugay, Crysler's Farm, Lacolle Mills and Lake Champlain. The group has achieved a very high standard of appearance and demonstration skills; and their uniforms and equipment are entirely relevant to the British infantry as a whole during the greater part of the Napoleonic Wars. In this first article the author discusses the history of the Canadian Fencibles.

**O**n 8 August 1803, orders were issued from the War Office to Col. Thomas Peter permitting him to raise one of four Fencible Regiments approved for the defence of British North America. Though the New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiments were to be raised from within the colonies, both Peter and Lord Hobart, Secretary at War and for the Colonies, had different plans for the Canadian Regiment.

The implementation of the Passenger's Act that same year had halted emigration from Scotland. Thousands of emigrants were left stranded without any means of support. The decision was taken to raise the Canadian Fencibles from this displaced population. However, by the time recruiting parties arrived in the Highlands many of the stranded emigrants were being provided for through local initiatives. With their original recruiting strategy bankrupt, many recruiting agents and officers turned to deception and trickery to fill the regiment's ranks.

On 27 June 1804 the regiment, 700 strong, marched into Glasgow. Shuffling through a heavy rain, without uniforms or arms, and followed by over 1500 dependents, the men were not an

inspiring sight. Poor housing, idleness, and the lack of supplies reduced the corps' morale and discipline to a minimum. The situation was made worse by the presence of English, Welsh and North American officers who were unable to speak Gaelic, creating mistrust and suspicion among the rank and file. Even an officer's simplest commands had to be translated by his sergeants before his men could undertake the order.

As conditions worsened, rumours spread that the regiment was to be sold to the East India Company. On 7 August 1804 the regiment was ordered to march to the Isle of Wight to take up winter quarters. Since the Isle of Wight was a major embarkation point for India, the worst fears of the recruits seemed about to be realized. Many men refused to obey orders, some in a 'very unsoldier-like and unsubmissive manner'. On the morning of 22 August, after days of minor disobedience, the regiment was ordered to begin its march. As the first division stepped off, many of the men broke ranks and the regiment dissolved into an unruly mob.

The War Office had had enough of the regiment's problems, and disbanded it in September. The courts martial that followed the mutiny determined that: '...since they





*Men drilling in civilian clothes: from Symptoms of Drill, published in 1804. When the regiment arrived in Glasgow in early summer 1804 the officers had proper regimentals, and sergeants and corporals had red coats, white knee breeches and varnished hats. The rank and file wore their own clothes, and were issued wooden poles for drill. The appearance of these ragged Highlanders carrying sticks attracted mockery from the locals, and far from improving discipline parades only increased the discontent of the recruits. (Canadian Park Service)*

were neither uniformed nor armed they were not subject to that military discipline they might otherwise have accepted.<sup>(2)</sup>

In June 1805 the *Quebec Gazette* reported the arrival in Canada of Lt. Col. David Shank along with other Canadian Fencible officers, and announced their intention to reform the regiment. Although the ranks of the Canadian Regiment were disbanded after the mutiny the corps remained on the Army Establishment, and Col. Peter was given permission to reform it in the Canadas. Disheartened by the initial failure of his regiment, Peter took little part in its rebirth. Instead, almost all his duties were thrust upon Shank. A veteran of the American Revolution and former lieutenant-colonel of the Queen's Rangers in the 1790s, the 48-year-old Shank had the experience to meet the task, but his age began to affect his performance. By 1810 Maj. Gen. Francis, Baron de Rottenburg would report Shank 'unfit to form a new Regiment of that Description'<sup>(3)</sup>.

#### **Second attempt**

After the officers' arrival, recruiting parties were dispatched throughout Upper and Lower Canada. In Lower Canada (Quebec) the inability of officers and their Gaelic sergeants to speak French kept recruits to a trickle. In Upper Canada (Ontario), Shank and his fellow North American officers soon found that their former sergeants and privates had turned to agriculture; and



*Lt. Col. David Shank in the uniform of the Queen's Rangers, c.1800. His coat is dark green faced with black in Rifles fashion, but its cut and the arrangement of the silver lace follows line officer's style. (Royal Ontario Museum)*



The Regimental Colour of the Canadian Fencibles survives, as does the King's Colour: both are displayed in the Canadian War Museum. Each is silk and measures 6ft. x 6ft.6ins. The Regimental Colour is yellow, with the title 'CANADIAN FENCIBLE INFANTRY' in black on white scrolls, surrounded by the royal stem bearing thistles, shamrocks and wild roses embroidered in natural colours. The King's Colour (see colour photograph) is a Union Flag with a central blue medallion charged with the Royal Cypher. Each has a narrow red sleeve for the staff. (Canadian War Museum)

Scottish immigrants from other previously disbanded Highland corps showed little interest in the fledgling regiment. The regiment's misfortunes in Glasgow, which were common knowledge in the colonies<sup>(4)</sup>, must have con-

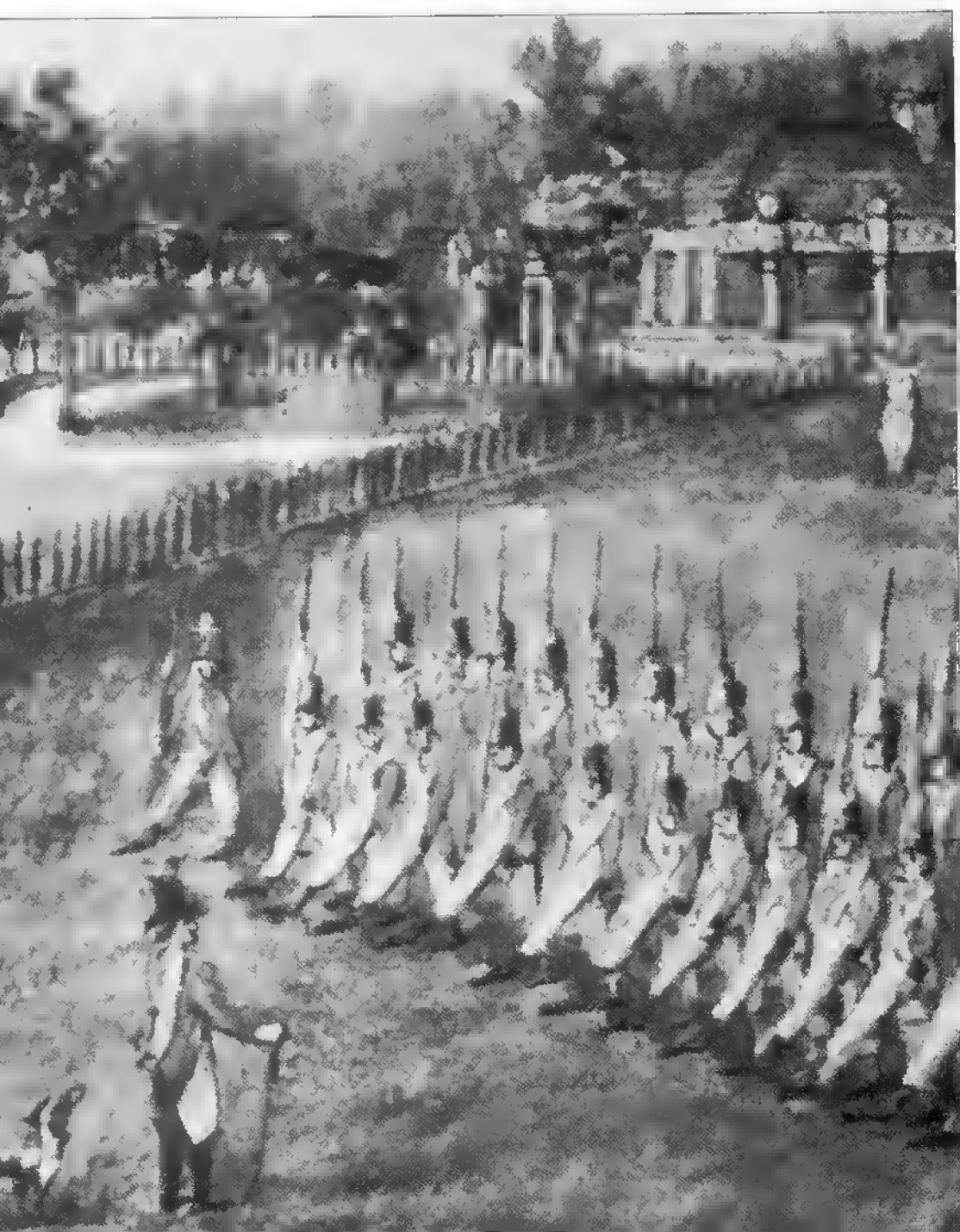
tributed to the negative appeal of the corps. Despite all of this, the regiment persevered and slowly drew recruits. After a year Shank reported back to Peter that the regiment's strength was a little under a hundred men. 'It is now I think possible to raise the Regiment partially.'<sup>(5)</sup>

With recruits slowly coming in, Shank was faced with a dilemma not unfamiliar to the Canadian Fencibles. Although the regiment was on the Army Establishment, it had not been officially embodied. This state of limbo left recruits without uniforms, arms or pay. Disappointed with this treatment, several of the recruits not unnaturally deserted. Fearing the complete breakdown of military discipline, Shank ordered the issue of about 200 suits of the late Queen's Rangers' clothing to the men. This stop-gap measure proved ineffective to stem the rate of desertion. The only solution to the regiment's deteriorating state was embodiment.

On 22 June 1807 the US frigate *Chesapeake* was stopped and boarded by the Royal Navy. Searching for deserters, the British removed part of the *Chesapeake's* crew and pressed some into service. This incident shook Anglo-American relations, already embittered, and brought both countries to the brink of war. Unprepared for hostilities, Sir James Craig, commander-in-chief of British forces in the Canadas, took swift measures to improve the colonies' defences. Suffering from a shortage of regular troops, Craig asked for and received permission for the embodiment of the now 200-strong Canadian Regiment.

While international tensions on this occasion soon subsided, the fortunes of the regiment continued to improve. Competing recruiting parties

*The 5th Regiment of Foot drilling at Fort George, Upper Canada; by Surgeon Walsh, 1806. Between 1805 and 1811 recruiting parties of the Canadian Fencibles operated from Fort George; and in late 1815 the regiment formed the fort's garrison, remaining there until orders for its disbandment arrived in May 1816. (Canadian Park Service)*



Canadian Fencibles recruiting notice in the Quebec Gazette, 9 April 1807; a French language version was also published. Besides the bounty, joining the Fencibles had two attractions: the option of enlisting for limited service of seven years; and safety from overseas postings to Europe or the disease-ridden West Indies. Fencible corps were Regular regiments confined to service in a given geographical area, in this case America. (National Library of Canada)

from the New Brunswick Fencibles were barred from the Canadas in 1808. Accompanying this, measures were taken to change the 'foreign' image of the regiment. Sons of prominent French and English Canadian families were commissioned as officers. In addition, more Canadians received the rank of sergeant. Familiar faces and names, speaking their language, made joining the Canadian Regiment more attractive to potential recruits. With the economy faltering and war on the horizon, recruits began to swell the regiment's ranks. By the outbreak of war in 1812 the regiment's strength was 700 uniformed,

Part of a page from the Description Book of Capt. Hall's company, March 1814. Each entry records the details of a volunteer, e.g. John (sic) Bourbon, 25 years old, 5ft.6ins. tall, fair complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, from the parish of Lorette, Lower Canada, a labourer, enlisted 27 February 1809 at Amherst (sic). The names of franco-phone recruits are all partially anglicised in these records. (National Archives of Canada)

**NOTICE.**  
*Wanted for His Majesty's CANADIAN FENCIBLE REGIMENT, commanded by BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS PETER, now raising in Canada, to serve in America and not elsewhere.*

**A** FEW young men willing to engage for seven years, in terms of a late Act of Parliament. If under the age of Eighteen years; the difference between that, and the Actual Age of the recruit to be added to the above Period of service.

Now is your time loyal Canadians to shew yourselves worthy of the glorious constitution under which you enjoy so much happiness. The Lieutenant Colonel requests that none will offer themselves but Canadians; the sons and relations of actual settlers in the Canadas, or other British American Colonies, and natural born subjects, as none of a different description will be acceptable or sought after. Every man who enlists will receive a bounty of FIVE POUNDS, and six pence sterling appropriated according to the Recruiting Instructions. No man will be taken who is above thirty years of age, or under five feet three inches high. Such as are qualified to act as non-commissioned Officers, and who prove themselves intelligent and active may expect speedy promotion, and all may rest assured of the best usage, and will receive every advantage granted to His Majesty's Forces in this Country.—Application to be made to LIEUT. COLONEL SHAWK at Three Rivers, or to the different Recruiting Parties in the Country.

**GOD SAVE THE KING.**

Quebec, 9th April, 1807

armed and equipped men.

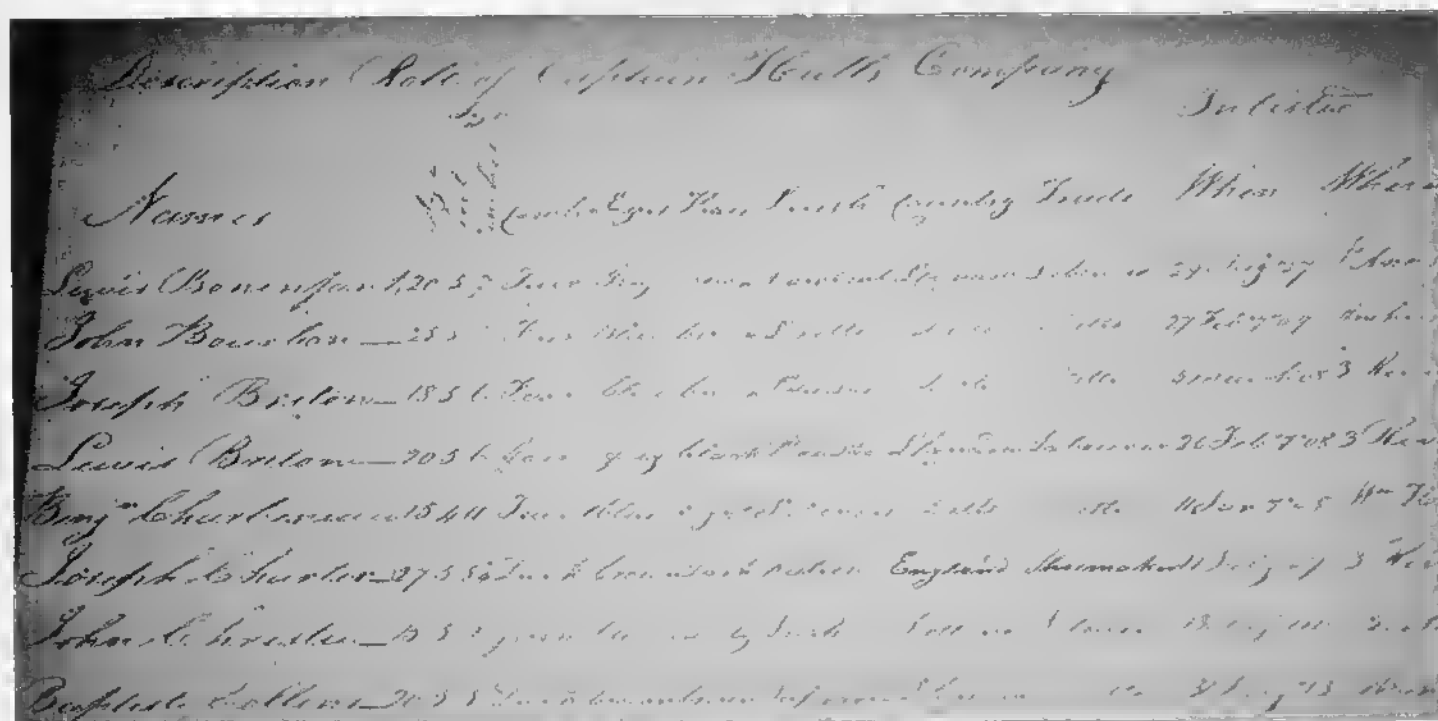
#### Composition

The Canadian Fencibles entered the war as a patchwork of soldiers from differing ethnic backgrounds. The 1810 Inspection Returns show recruits of Canadian origin constituting the bulk of the regiment (58%). The second largest group (19%) was made up of 'foreign'-born recruits, many of them loyalists or

immigrants who had chosen to leave the United States after the American Revolution. Other foreigners in the regiment included men born in Prussia, Finland, Bermuda and South America. The remainder of the regiment was filled by recruits born in Scotland (10%), Ireland (8%), and England (5%). Because of its earlier recruiting attempts in Scotland the regiment's

sergeants continued to be predominantly Scottish: of the 29 sergeants, 16 were Scots, six Canadian, five 'foreign', and two Irish.

The 1814 muster role of Capt. Hall's company of Canadian Fencibles sheds more light on the subject of ethnicity. From a company strength of 68 men, 47 were born in British North America (43 of them in Lower Canada).





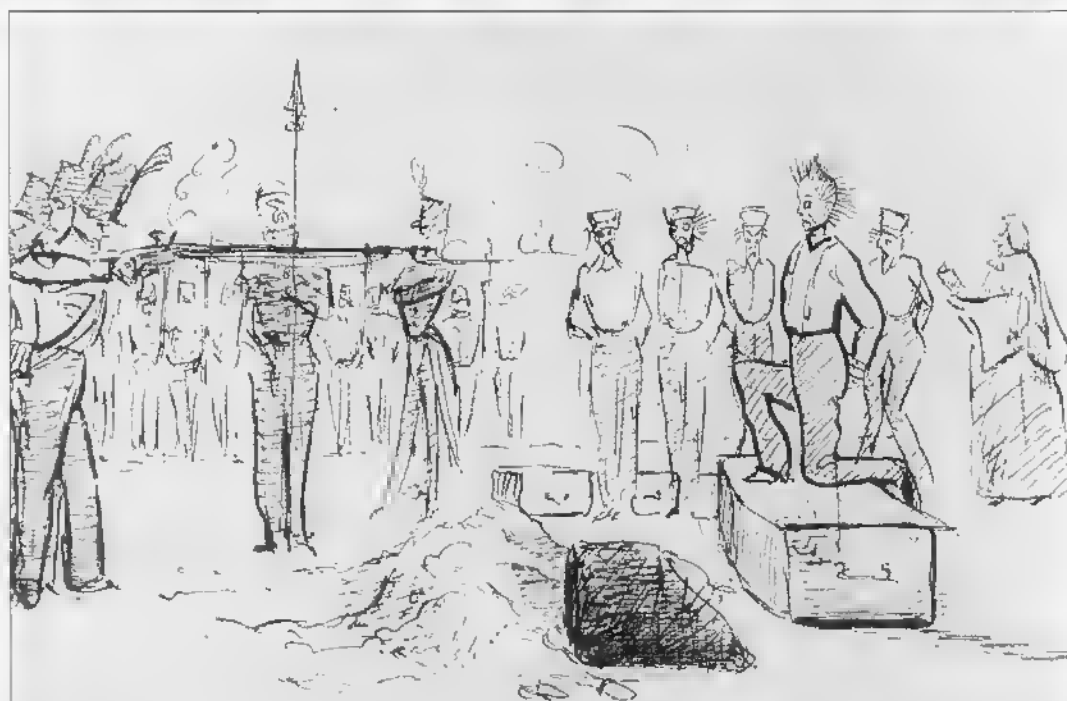


*The recreated Canadian Fencible Regiment take part in the 175th anniversary celebrations of the battle of Crysler's Farm. (Cornwall Journal)*

Of that number, 36 possessed French last names, along with typical French first names but with English spellings. In his report to the War Office in June 1810, Isaac Brock suggested that training problems in the regiment were created by the difference in language among many of the recruits.<sup>60</sup> By the outbreak of the war recruits had been conditioned by continuous drill to respond to the English orders of their officers.

#### THE WAR OF 1812

The American declaration of war on 18 June 1812 left British military officials in the Canadas in a very precarious position. With only 5,600 Regulars to defend a border over 1,500 miles long, the successful defence of Canada seemed impossible. To overcome the shortfall in manpower two new Colonial corps, the Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles and the Canadian Voltigeurs, were quickly raised in 1812. To speed their formation the Canadian Regiment transferred several officers and experienced sergeants to assist in recruitment and training. In addition to the new corps, an élite group of Regulars was assembled in the colonies. Adhering to the General Order of 30 June 1812, the Canadian Grenadier and Light Infantry companies were combined with the flank companies of the other Regular regiments in Lower Canada to form a Flank Battalion. Under the direction



*Executions at La Prairie, 1812-13: a cartoon which includes chillingly convincing details of a military execution of the day, with the victim kneeling on his coffin behind an open grave. Lesser punishments which could be inflicted on men of the Fencibles included transportation to Australia, transfer to a line regiment, or the lash. One deserter was ordered 'to be marked [tattooed] on the left side, two inches below the arm pit, with the letter D, such letter not to be less than half an inch long.' In January 1812 the Canadian Fencibles were criticised by Horse Guards for the 'frequency of punishment' in the corps. The soldiers waiting to be executed seem to wear a 'pork-pie' style of forage cap. (National Archives of Canada)*

of Maj. Gen. De Rottenburg, this élite battalion took up its post south of Montreal to check any American thrust from Lake Champlain.

Increased American activity on the upper St. Lawrence River in the fall of 1812 considerably alarmed military officials. Being the only supply link with Upper Canada, the St. Lawrence had to be protected. For the safety of supply flotillas travelling the river a Canadian Fencible company was dispatched to perform as marines. Along with these duties the Canadian Regiment was called upon early in the war to provide militia administrators and instructors, to act as artificers and assist the Royal Artillery.

#### Lake Champlain

In July 1813 it was decided that British forces in Lower Canada would take the offensive on Lake Champlain. It was hoped that a diversionary offensive would provide some relief to

the hard-pressed forces in Upper Canada. With little over 1,000 Regulars, including the Canadian Grenadier and Light companies, a flotilla of sloops and gunboats sailed out on to Lake Champlain on 29 July. Two days later Plattsburg, New York, was easily captured and its fortifications and stores destroyed.

Detachments torched blockhouses, barracks and storehouses all along the lake. Even Burlington, Vermont, which contained several thousand troops, was fired upon. When the flotilla returned north it brought with it nine American vessels, most containing stores for the American army.

The Canadian Regiment's service changed dramatically in late 1813 as the American campaign focused on Montreal. The capture of Montreal would cut off Upper Canada and starve it into submission. To accomplish this the Americans decided on a two-

pronged attack. An army of 10,000 men under Gen. James Wilkinson prepared to descend the St. Lawrence on Montreal from Lake Ontario, while another 5,000 Americans under Gen. Wade Hampton marched north from Plattsburg. Instead of taking the traditional Richelieu River invasion route, Hampton chose to move down the less defended Chateauguay River.

#### Chateauguay

Warned of the American advance on his position, Lt. Col. Charles-Michel de Salaberry ordered his small force of 300 to fortify themselves with felled trees and entrenchments. Behind their abattis the Canadian Regiment's Light company, two Voltigeur companies, and a group of Sedentary Militia prepared to meet Hampton's army. On 25 October the Americans attacked. Lt. Pinquet of the Canadian Fencibles later wrote to his

brother:

'We had to contend with two thousand infantry and two hundred cavalry. We lost no time. All of our men fired from thirty-five to forty rounds so well aimed that the prisoners told us next day that every shot seem to pass at about the height of a man's breast or head. Our company was engaged for about three-quarters of an hour before reinforcements

*Front and rear views of a contemporary regimental surgeon's coat — here, that of the 75th Regiment. Coats worn by surgeons varied from regiment to regiment; this example is decorated with gold twist braiding on collar, breast, pockets, and in the small of the waist (even though the 75th wore silver metal). The style worn by surgeons of the Fencibles is uncertain, but was probably the typical plain single-breasted type with twist of the ground-colours. For winter dress single-breasted surgeon's greatcoats were ordered in 1811. In the rear of this example the false pocket flaps conceal three regimental buttons each — oddly, there are no buttonholes to expose them. (Private collection: Peter Tivist)*





**A**

(A) Two Canadian Fencible privates in summer dress, 1812. Left is a light company man, with green wool shako tuft and shoulder wings to his jacket; right, a battalion company man with white-over-red tuft and a tufted shoulder strap; the shape and position of jacket pockets also distinguished the Light company—uniform details will be given in Part 2 of this series. (Photo: Janice Lang)

(B) Detachment of battalion company soldiers of the recreated Canadian Fencibles prepare to receive cavalry, with their King's and Regimental Colours. (Photo: Robin Morris)

**B**







(C) Detachment of Canadian Fencibles, in greatcoats, with the Colours in proofed linen cases with brass tops. After the battle at Cryster's Farm the American Gen. Wilkinson retreated across the frozen St. Lawrence to French Mills, opposite Cornwall. When he decided to fall back to Plattsburg, NY, in February 1814 four companies of the Canadian Fencibles, and other Regulars, crossed the river and attacked his rearguard, capturing 100 sleigh-loads of supplies and pursuing the Americans to within a few miles of Plattsburg. (Photo: Janice Lang)

(D) A wounded soldier of the Canadian Fencibles being brought into hospital. The orderly wears the regiment's fatigue dress, a white forage jacket faced yellow at collar and cuffs. (Photo: Janice Lang)



came up. The enemy lost about five hundred in killed, wounded, and prisoners.<sup>107</sup>

With Hampton halted by this skirmish with Canadian troops on the Chateaugay, it was up to Wilkinson to take Montreal. By the night of 6 November Wilkinson had descended the St. Lawrence to just above the village of Ogdensburg, New York. There he disembarked his army from their flotilla of 300 craft and marched around Ogdensburg to avoid the guns of Fort Wellington across the river at Prescott. After the empty vessels had passed under the guns



of Fort Wellington the army re-embarked. This delay provided valuable time for British and Canadian forces to concentrate and then check the enemy's advance.

#### Crysler's Farm

The following day a British force arrived at Prescott aboard a naval squadron from Kingston under Lt. Col. Joseph Morrison of the 89th Regiment. There the corps of observation, which consisted of detachments of the 49th and the 89th Regiments, was joined by a company of Canadian Fencibles, along with detachments of Voltigeurs, artillery and militia. Continuing their pursuit of Wilkinson, Morrison's force of 850 engaged the enemy's rearguard near the farm of John Crysler on 11 November. After several hours of stiff fighting the American force of 1,800 retired from the field. During the course of the battle the Canadian Fencible company, in conjunction with the flank companies of the 49th, made a gallant charge on the enemy guns. In this engagement the detachment of Canadian Fencibles lost about 35% of its strength in casualties including two officers killed. For the Americans, the loss of close to 500 dead, wounded and prisoners of war in the Battle of Crysler's Farm, and the news of Hampton's failure on the Chateaugay, convinced Wilkinson to abandon the 1813 campaign.

Determined to gain a victory over the British, Wilkinson re-entered Canada from Plattsburg early in 1814. On 30 March, with 4,000 Americans, Wilkinson attacked Lacolle Mills, which was defended by detachments of the 13th Regiment, Royal Marines, and militia: 180 men in total. The garrison was quickly reinforced from Isle Aux Noix, just north of Lacolle, and the alarm was spread throughout the area.

#### Lacolle

The Grenadiers of the Canadian Fencibles and a company of Voltigeurs were ordered to the battle. A rapid thaw that day had turned most roads into rivers, offering the

Grenadiers and Voltigeurs little choice but to wade to the waist in icy water. Led by Capt. Edward Cartwright, the two companies reached the besieged garrison an hour before sunset. Perceiving the danger the enemy guns posed to the garrison, 'Captain Cartwright of the Canadian Fencibles with the Grenadiers of this Corps and a company of Voltigeurs twice charged the enemy's guns with great spirit and would have procured them but for the very great superiority opposed to him.'<sup>91</sup> With night falling, and after suffering 170 casualties, Wilkinson retreated back across the frontier. This was the last engagement of the Canadian Regiment.

A year before its dishandment, the *York Gazette* reported in April 1815: 'his Excellency Lieut. General Sir George Murray reviewed the battalion of Canadian Fencibles now doing duty here, and was pleased to express his approbation of their steady discipline and soldier-like appearance.'<sup>92</sup> Much had changed since that hand of destitute and suspicious Highlanders, lacking both uniforms and arms, entered Glasgow in the pouring rain eleven years before.

**To be continued:** The next part of this series will describe and further illustrate the uniforms and equipment of the regiment. **MD**

#### Notes:

- (1) J.M. Bumsted, *The People's Charances: Highland Emigration to British North America*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press 1982, p. 178.
- (2) J. Prieble, *Mining: Highland Regiments in Russia, 1743-1804*. London: Secker and Warburg 1975. p. 487.
- (3) PRO, WO27/101, De Ronenburg's inspection of the regiment in Quebec. 28 November 1810.
- (4) NAC, RG8, vol. C-363, p. 42.
- (5) NAC, RG8, vol. C-795, p. 46.
- (6) PRO, WO27/99, part 1, Bruck's inspection of the regiment, 25 June 1810.
- (7) Royal Canadian Military Institute Selected Papers from the transactions # 11 and 12, 1902-1903.
- (8) NAC, RG8, vol. C-1227, p. 55.
- (9) National Library of Canada, *York Gazette*, 29 April 1815.

# The Messines Mines, June 1917

IAN GALLACHER

An explosion which occurred during a severe thunderstorm in south-west Belgium on 17 July 1955 solved in part a mystery of almost forty years' standing. Lightning struck a willow tree at the crossroads of Le Pelegrin near the eastern edge of Ploegsteert Wood. The resulting blast was caused by the detonation of thousands of pounds of ammonal high explosive. There were no injuries; but the blast added yet another crater to this area of Belgium which was once part of the Ypres Salient, that notorious killing ground of nearly a quarter of a million young men.

A glance at the *National Geografisch Instituut* of Belgium's *Kaart 28*, scale 1:50,000, shows very clearly the problem faced in 1917 by Gen. Plumer and his British Second Army. The Messines (Mesen) Ridge, and the man-made spoil dump of Hill 60 — debris from the cutting of the railway in the previous century — dominated the low swampy ground which was held by the Allied forces. The Germans were secure on this high ground, which rises to 150 feet near Wytshaete, and with their open lines of communication and well-constructed concrete bunkers had literally got the upper hand.

The Allies had drawn up a long-term plan for an attack with strictly limited objectives. It was to go in over a ten-mile front, and the aim was to capture the ridge and advance one

to two miles into the enemy's territory. A unique feature of this operation was to be the element of surprise. This was to be achieved by the simultaneous explosion of 21 massive mines placed in deep tunnels under the German forward positions. The mines were to contain over 500 tons of high explosives — more than 20 tons per mine; and were to be placed so as to ensure that maximum damage would be inflicted.

It was of course much easier

*Shattered woodland, like this grimy characteristic scene at Chateau Wood near Passchendaele, offered scant cover for operations. The scene must have been very similar at Spanbroekmolen, where the mining was carried out in the remains of a small wood. Extraordinary measures had to be carried out to prevent enemy observers spotting the signs of mining. (Imperial War Museum)*





Underground photographs of mining were almost unknown, so the quality of this posed shot is of less importance than its existence. It was taken under the Somme front prior to the battle of Albert; a large chamber has been cut into the clean chalk (very different conditions from the clay of the Ypres Salient). At left kneels an officer using a geophone listening device. The flare is caused by a lamp hung on the chalk face just behind the young soldier's head. (IWM)

said than done. Some areas of ground, Hill 60 in particular, had been subjected to ceaseless mining and counter-mining for almost two years. The fighting in these galleries ten to twenty feet underground had resulted in both sides firing sometimes two or three camouflets a day. These were small charges which shook up the sub-strata, and were designed to blast into enemy galleries; they were not intended to effect the surface, but gas seeped along the narrow passages and followed into the holes blasted by them.

At ground level, untold thousands of shells had churned the soil into a morass of mud, so much so that in this swampy area of Belgium the natural drainage had been virtually destroyed. Trenches could often go no deeper than two feet because of the water;

their parapets had to be built up with sandbag walls in order to afford some scant protection — and the shelling never ceased for long.

The tunnellers were faced with a glutinous, muddy slurry which had once been topsoil, followed by a belt of sticky brownish clay; more silt and sand; and at approximately the 50ft.-60ft. level, a thick seam of bluish clay. This was similar to 'London clay', and it was this seam which was to offset the medium for driving the galleries towards the enemy lines.

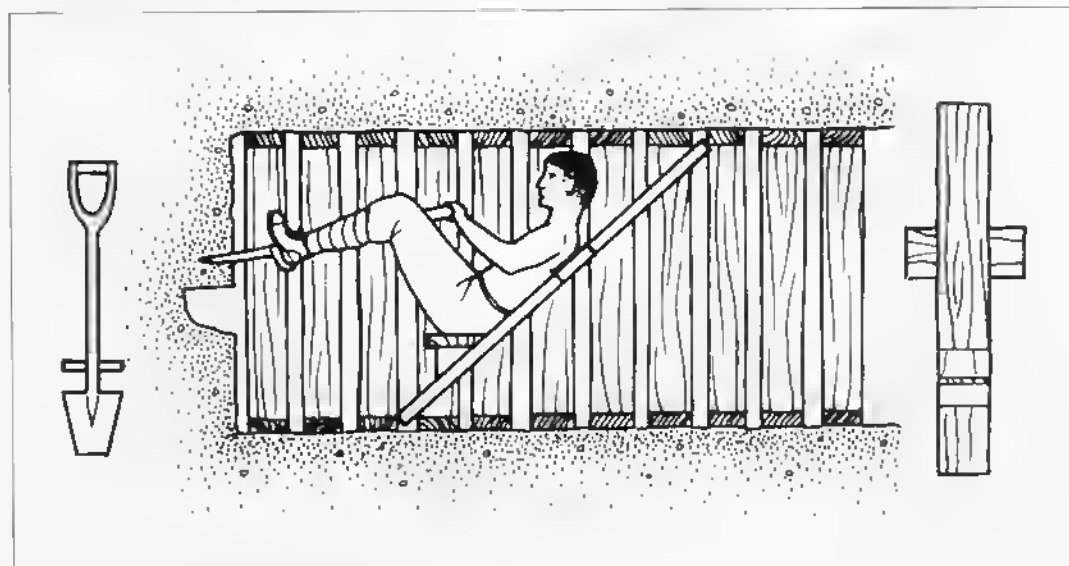
Secrecy was all-important.

The mines were referred to as 'wells in connection with the water supply', and by early 1916 the deep shafts now in existence were prominently signposted 'Danger — Deep Well'. Clay colour was a major worry: any dumps of dark blue clay would have clearly indicated to enemy airmen or to observers in balloons that deep mining was underway. It was therefore moved at night by working parties from the infantry, and buried in sandbags under trench parapets, or carried away for distribution far behind the lines.

## MINING METHODS

The Royal Engineers had six tunnelling companies at work on the mines. These were the 171st, 175th, 250th, 1st Canadian, 3rd Canadian, and 1st Australian. Many of the men had been miners in civilian life. There were coal miners from all parts of Britain in these companies; others were 'hard rock' men from the Cornish tin mines and from mineral workings in Australia and Canada, or tunnellers who had been

*A 'day-kicker', working 'on the cross'. In good conditions a shift could make as much as 12ft. of progress.*



employed on schemes such as the London Underground and on sewer construction.

This rush to enlist their specialist skills meant that in many cases less than a month elapsed between induction into the Army and arrival in the front line; and such was their lack of formal military training that some commanding officers thought it only prudent to take away their rifles and ammunition.

Military mining technology had improved since the early years of the war. Steel sectioned tubing was now available to sink shafts through the wettest areas of ground, the spoil then being dug out of the shafts. There were quieter air pumps for ventilation; and efficient electric lighting plants installed and maintained by electrical and mechanical sections of the

Royal Engineers. A refined listening apparatus, the 'geophone', had been developed. This was not unlike a doctor's stethoscope, and enabled an experienced user to determine if there was any noise of nearby enemy mining or counter-mining activity, and its probable direction and distance. Despite these advances, however, mining work remained highly labour-intensive.

Major J. Norton-Griffiths, an engineering contractor in civil life, introduced the principle of 'clay-kicking' into the tunnelling work: this was the method successfully employed by navvies on many of London's underground schemes. It involved the miner lying on his back on an angled wooden plank with a cross strut which afforded leverage behind his shoulders. A sharp pointed spade was literally kicked into the clay by means of a crossbar above the blade. The clay dislodged by each kick was removed by another man lying full length beside the kicker, and passed back along

the narrow tunnel to be collected by other miners for removal. Such a method allowed the work to progress where normally there would not have been room to swing a pick; and in sound clay the tunnellers could make progress at up to 12 feet a shift.

This was slow and laborious work, though; and the order was given for the purchase from the Stanley Heading and Machine Company of Nuneaton of two tunnelling machines, similar to those used on the construction of the London 'Tube'. The tunnel at Petit Bois was chosen for the experiment; and with enormous labour a machine was finally manhandled to the shaft, uncrated, assembled and lowered 88ft. to the chamber which had been readied for it.

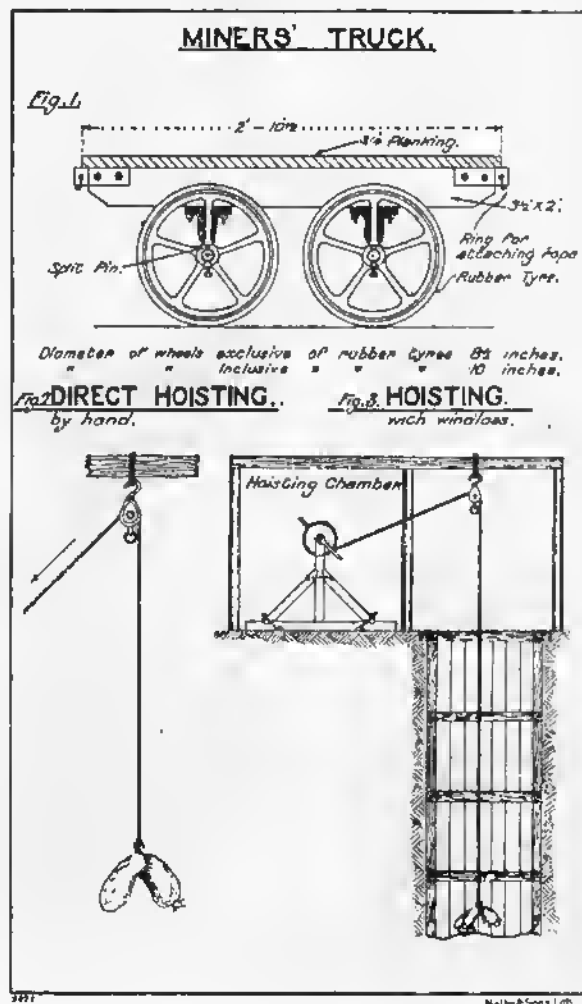
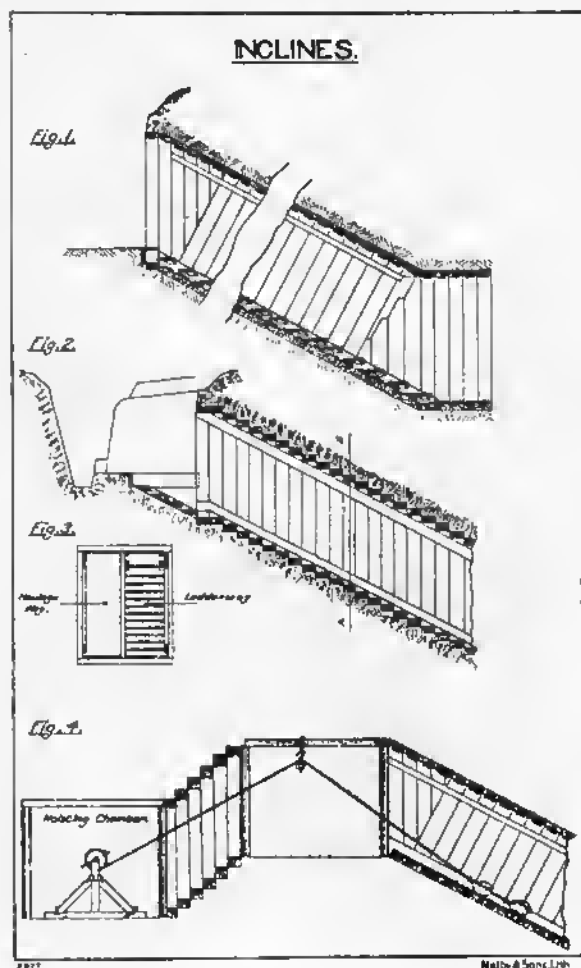
It was switched on, and worked perfectly. Cleanly and smoothly it began to cut a tunnel of six feet in diameter, and excited miners began to talk of the possibility of actually reaching the enemy's artillery lines. In eight hours it cut 16

feet, the miners following and timbering as it went; but trouble arose when it developed a tendency to 'dive'. The efforts to counteract this resulted in the bursting of its bottom hydraulic rams. The machine was switched off for repairs, and when these had been made attempts were made to restart it — but in vain: the clay had settled around the tunnelling head and held it in a vice-like grip. It took many weary hours of work before the machine was freed and again started. This time it cut 18ins. in 20 minutes before it ground to a final halt; and there the 'great shield' remains to this day, rusting away 80ft. beneath the fields of Flanders.

### The charges

Nevertheless, over a period of nearly two years the tunnels were driven out and under the enemy lines, and their firing chambers excavated and loaded with explosives. Earlier mines had been packed with gunpowder and guncotton; but this was in great demand, particularly by the navy, and so the explo-

*Illustrations of gallery and shaft entrances and spoil-truck hauling arrangements, from Military Engineering Vol. IV: Demolitions and Mining (London, 1923) — the standard manual which consolidated the experience of the Great War.*



sive ammonal was tested successfully and introduced. This had three times the power of guncotton, produced fewer gases when detonated, and was far less liable to premature detonation if hit by a stray bullet or piece of shrapnel when being carried up to the line.

However, placing it remained dangerous and nerve racking work. *The Official History of the Great War* observes that: 'The obstinacy and duration of the underground warfare in the preparation of these mines, the depth and length of the galleries driven, the weight of the charges laid, and the length of the time they remained tamped and wired, makes this mining offensive the most notable undertaken in conjunction with any battle or campaign of the war.'

Once loaded, the explosive had to be 'tamped' into position. This ensured that the force of the explosion travelled upwards, and not back along the tunnel — the easiest line of resistance. It was done by packing it in with substantial walls of sandbags, often braced in position with cross timbers, all of this work calling for a great deal of physical effort in a very confined space. Firing circuits were installed as the mines were loaded; in some cases, such as the two mines under Hill 60, 'back-up' circuits were provided. Hill 60 had three circuits; its load of ammonal was in watertight tins, and 60 detonators were placed *in situ*. The officers in charge of the tunnelling companies had to carry out regular checks on the electrical resistance of the circuits, and inevitably as the months went by they began to get deteriorating results.

This added to the worries of the tunnelling officers, for work was proceeding apace on training the infantry and stockpiling ammunition for the day of the attack. A month previously Gen. Plumer, commanding the Second Army, had confidently promised Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig that the attack would go in on 7 June 1917 as planned; he was determined that the timetable should be met, and that meticulous planning, and stockpiling of shells and equipment,

Plan and elevation of the chambers of the St. Eloi mine. There were three complete electrical circuits, each with ten Mk. 3 (No. 13) detonators joined up in series. Each detonator was placed in one stick of gelignite, with 12 more sticks bound to it, and then embedded in a 50lb. tin of ammonal. The charge was fired by the three circuits, each having an individual exploder. Galleries measured 4ft. 3ins. by 2ft. 3ins., chambers and station 6ft. by 3ft., all close-unibored throughout.

should ensure that this attack — unlike so many of its predecessors — would be successful. The explosion of the 19 mines was to play a key part in obtaining this success, and also in ensuring that Allied casualty figures were kept to a minimum.

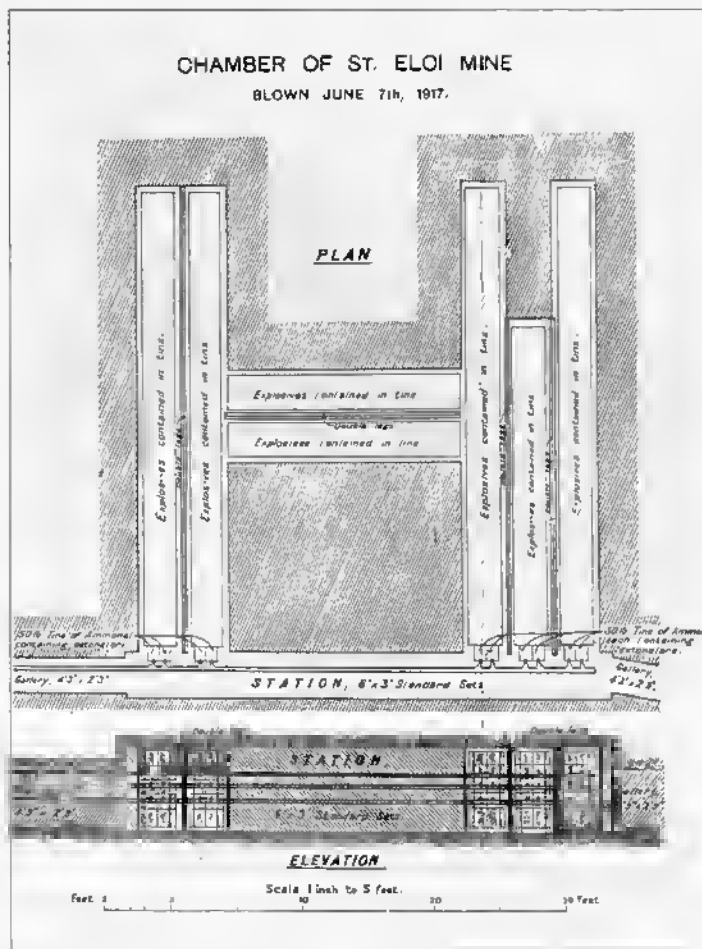
### Zero hour

Twenty-one mines were in fact ready to be fired; but two of them were on the extreme right of the ten-mile front, at Trench 121 on the north-east corner of Ploegsteert Wood. The 171st Tunnelling Company was ordered to see that in all respects they were prepared for explosion, but they were not to be detonated.

Zero hour was at 3.10 a.m. on 7 June, and was preceded by a bombardment which had begun by concentrating on the enemy gun positions on 21 May, and switched ten days later to an intensified general bombardment. The enormity of this is hard to grasp, though it is well documented in the *Official History*: 'The expenditure of artillery ammunition for the three corps during the bombardment period from the 26th May to the 6th June amounted to 3½ million shells (3,561,530), the cost of which was estimated at £17,500,000.'

The plungers for the mines went down, and the earth erupted. A German observer saw it as 'nineteen gigantic roses with carmine petals, or as enormous mushrooms, which rose up slowly and majestically out of the ground, and then split into pieces with a mighty roar, sending up multi-coloured columns of flame mixed with a mass of earth and splinters high into the sky.'

As the first wave of assault troops were clambering over their parapets the inhabitants of Lille eleven miles away were tumbling into the streets screaming that an earthquake



Name	Charge depth (ft.)	Charge (lbs.)	Gallery length (ft.)	The Messines Mines	
				Crater: A: Diameter, ground level B: Diameter of complete obliteration (ft.)	
Hill 60:					
A Left	90	53,500	240 (branch)	A: 191 B: 285	
B Caterpillar	100	70,000	1,380	A: 260 B: 380	
St. Eloi	125	95,600	1,340 + 300	A: 176 B: 330	
Hollandscheschour:					
No. 1	60	34,200	825	A: 183 B: 343	
No. 2	55	14,900	45 (branch)	A: 105 B: 215	
No. 3	55	17,500	395 (branch)	A: 141 B: 201	
Petit Bois:					
No. 1 Right	70	30,000	2,070	A: 175 B: 375	
No. 2 Left	57	30,000	210 (branch)	A: 217 B: 417	
Maedelstede Farm	100	94,000	1,610	A: 205 B: 385	
Peckham	70	87,000	1,145	A: 240 B: 330	
Spanbroekmolen	88	91,000	1,710	A: 250 B: 430	
Kruisstraat:					
Nos. 1 & 4	57	49,500	1,615	A: 235 B: 395	
No. 2	62	30,000	170 (branch)	A: 217 B: 367	
No. 3	50	30,000	2,160	A: 202 B: 332	
Ontario Farm	104	60,000	1,290	A: 200 B: 220	
Trench 127:					
No. 7 Left	75	36,000	250 (branch)	A: 182 B: 232	
No. 8 Right	75	50,000	1,355	A: 210 B: 342	
Trench 122:					
No. 5 Left	60	20,000	440 (branch)	A: 195 B: 323	
No. 6 Right	75	40,000	970	A: 228 B: 356	



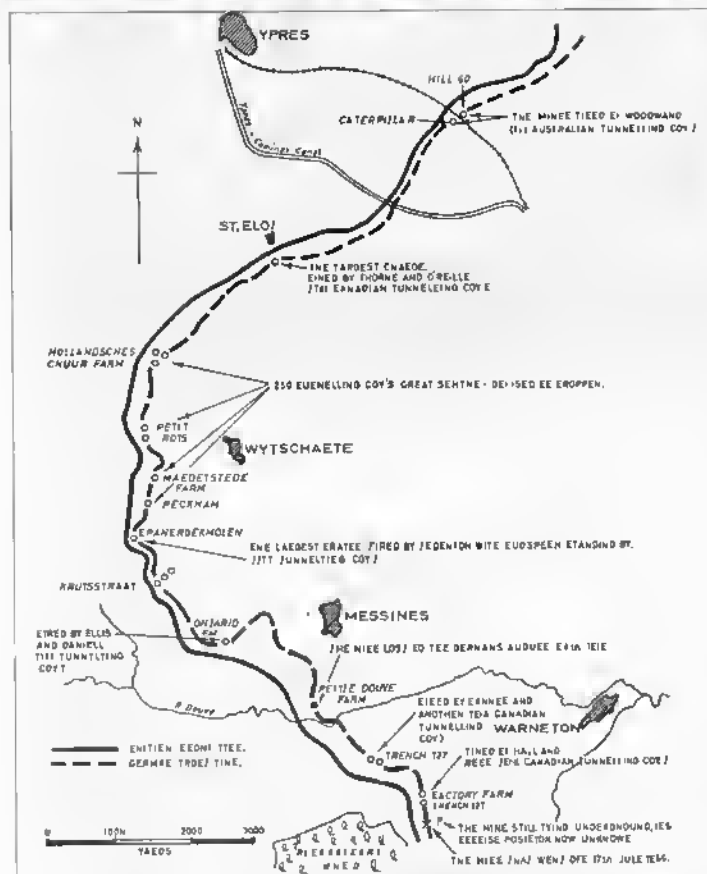


#### Left:

One of the most famous pictures of a mine exploding: Hawthorne Ridge being blown on the Somme on 1 July 1916 before the assault on Beaumont Hamel. It contained 40,000 lbs. of ammonal — some of the Messines mines had twice this weight of explosive. (IWM)

#### Centre left:

Map showing the total area of the mine operations, with the two mines which were not blown in 1917 at the southern end of the line. (Courtesy John Terraine)



had occurred, and the vibrations were being felt in the south-east of England. Max Pemberton, an English journalist writing in the *War Illustrated* of June 1917, rejoiced in the event: 'A day of doom might have dawned, and the Last Judgment come upon mankind. Never were such flames seen upon any horizon. The sounds were like nothing to which human ears had yet listened. We had fired the mines at last, had blown Hill 60 into the *ewigkeit* (eternity) — had set the Battle of Messines going with a vengeance'.

It was not, of course, a walkover; to call it that would be a grave injustice to the 16,000 Allied casualties; but viewed as a limited operation with a clear objective — the capture of the Messines Ridge much of which was taken almost within an hour — it was an unqualified success. Some 7,000 Germans surrendered, many of them dazed beyond comprehension, and the exact numbers of their dead will never be known.

#### The scars

Today, nearly seventy-five years later, most of the scars of that fighting have faded. The woods have been replanted, most of the villages long since rebuilt, the trenches are now best traced as shadowed outlines on photographs taken from the air, and only a handful of the participants survive.

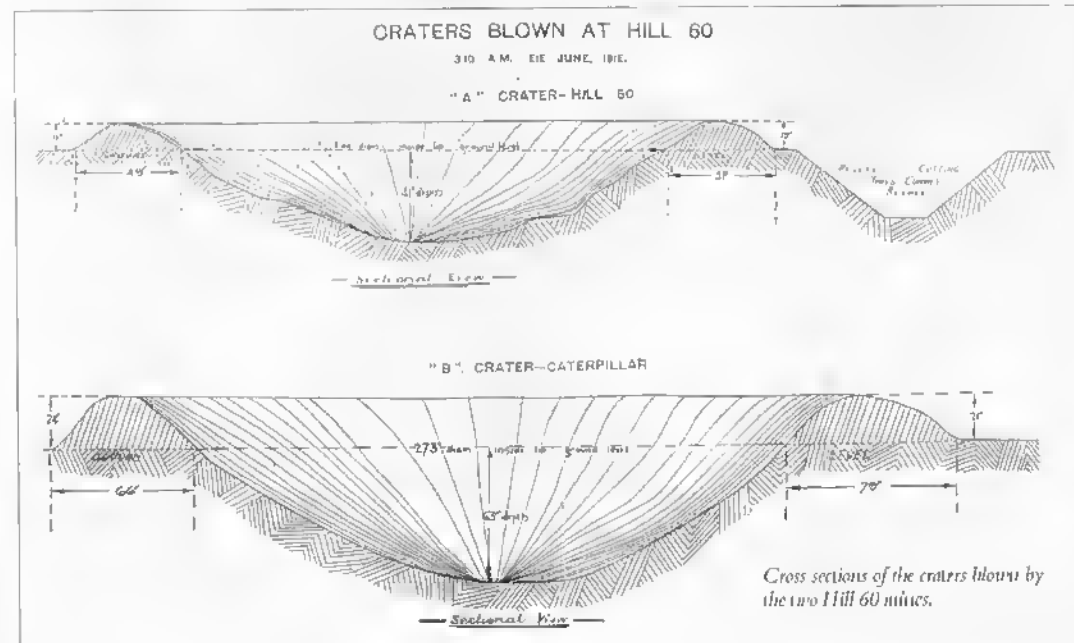
The cemeteries remain, of course; 17 British military ones are to be found around the area of the Ypres Salient, and in addition there are many memorials to the half a million men who died contesting this small area of Belgium. One of them is rather different, though.

Spanbroekmolen was one of the 19 Messines mines, and had a troubled history. German miners suspected its presence, and after its completion counter-attacked underground with camouflets. The electrical leads to the British mine were broken; a new gallery was driven but encountered gas, and in the end, after being 'lost' for nearly three months, the mine was primed and ready to fire only just before zero hour. The 91,000 lbs. of ammonal went up on time; and the ensuring diameter of complete obliteration, at 430 feet, was the largest caused by any of these mines.

Its crater was subsequently purchased by Lord Wakefield, and presented to Talbot House, (Toc H) as a war memorial. It was renamed the 'Pool of Peace', and a commemorative headstone erected:

'Spanbroekmolen or Lone Tree Crater. This crater was one of ten blown up by the Second Army on June 7th 1917. Following the explosion of these mines Lord Plumer's army was able to secure the Messines Ridge. Particulars: Sap started 1st January 1916, completed 26th June 1916. Depth of charge 88 feet. Charge 91,000 lbs. ammonal. Length of gallery 1,710 feet. Blown 7th June 1917. Dimensions: diameter at ground level 250 feet, width of rim 90 feet. Depth below normal ground level 40 feet. Height of rim 13 feet. Diameter of complete obliteration 430 feet. This crater is the property of Toc H Poppyringhe.'

Careful study of Map 28 will show a number of similar



Cross sections of the craters blown by the two Hill 60 mines.

pools, all once mine craters. What it cannot show is a broken promise. The British authorities assured the Belgian government that on cessation of hostilities they would dig up and remove the thousands of pounds of explosive charges from the two unfired mines buried 82 feet below the eastern edge of Ploegsteert Wood. In the event the German Spring Offensive of 1918 swept away the British positions in this area, and the Armistice of 1918 ensured the rapid return to the United Kingdom of most of the British forces.

The exact position of the two mines seems to have been lost in the turmoil. The thunderstorm in July 1955 accounted for one; the other remains, somewhere under the peaceful fields. It is impossible not to wonder if, when, and at what cost this sleeping giant may one day reveal itself to write a final end to a story of underground warfare on a scale which has long passed into history. **MI**

#### Sources:

*Before Endeavours Fade*, Rose B. Coombes; Battle of Britain Prints International Ltd.

*History of the First World War*, Liddel Hart (1970)

*History of the Great War Vol. 2*, HMSO (1948)

*They Called it Passchendaele*, Lyn MacDonald; Michael Joseph  
*Tunnellers*, Capt. W. Grant Grieve with Bernard Newman; Herbert Jenkins (1936)

*War Underground*, Alexander Barrie; O'Donovan (1961)

*White Heat: The New Warfare*, John Terraine; Sidgwick & Jackson (1982)

Assistance from: the Centre de Documentation Historique in Brussels; Royal Engineers Museum; Imperial War Museum, London.

#### Below:

An idea of a crater in human scale is given by the figures on the rim in this photograph taken from the bottom of the Spanbroekmolen crater — 91,000 lbs. of ammonal caused total devastation across a diameter of 430 ft. (IWM)

#### Right:

The Hill 60 craters from the air, showing up clearly amid the shellholes and trench lines. This photograph was obviously taken some time after the battle, as shellholes and trenches overlay the craters and rims. (IWM)

#### Below:

A recent aerial picture of the centre of the line of mines: (A) two craters immediately west of Petit Bois, somewhere beneath which the remains of the tunnelling machine still lie rusting; (B) the Maedelstede Farm crater; (C) Peckham crater; (D) Spanbroekmolen crater — the 'Pool of Peace'; (E) Bois de Wyschacte; (F) Spanbroekmolen British military cemetery. (R. Bruyne, Ieper)



# The British Infantry of the Seven Years' War (2)

GERRY EMBLETON &  
PHILIP HAYTHORNTHWAITE  
Paintings by GERRY EMBLETON

Part 1 of this series ('MP' No. 36) described the uniforms of all ranks, with campaign modifications, and illustrated some other ranks' uniforms. This part details the known regimental variations; and illustrates further other ranks', and particularly officers' uniforms.

In the following list there is space only for brief details of uniform from the 1751 Warrant, the Morier paintings, and some examples of subsequent regimental uniform taken from various contemporary sources. To assist identification of regiments in contemporary sources, colonel's names and dates of appointments are given for the line regiments, but only for the period of the Seven Years' War. Details of regimental service are very brief and do not identify all actions in which they participated.

## Foot Guards

Blue facings, white lace (square loops 1st, pointed remainder), red waistcoat (1st and 2nd looped), blue breeches. Grenadier cap bore Garter Star in proper colours; Morier shows white cap-tuft with red centre, but blue mentioned 1750 for 1st Guards. Loops on waistcoat varied from 9 to 12 dependent upon height of wearer (1750). 1755 Army List notes white lace shoulder-straps for 1st, 'slash pockets' 2nd, shown by Morier as vertical with pointed loops. Officers' lace gold, binding on facings, pointed loops (but Gainsborough portrait of Hon. Thomas Needham c.1764 has no loops). Aiguillette at rear of right shoulder; buff waistcoat and breeches for all regts., ordered for 1st 1749, 1750, 1st Guards officers to have gold hat-bands and narrow gold binding on frock and waistcoat; *Ipswich Journal* March 1753 notes extra embroidery to be added to 'full regimentals'. Portrait of Hon. Cosmo Gordon c.1765 shows grenadier cap perhaps produced by adding fur to existing cloth mitre, fur cap with embroidered 'little flap' and royal arms above, scarlet and gold tassel hanging from centre tassel; blue shoulder-straps with gold edge and fringe.

## 1st Foot (The Royal Regiment)

Colonels: Hon. James St. Clair, June 1737; Sir Henry Erskine, Dec. 1762.  
Service: America, W. Indies.  
Uniform: 1751 blue facings and breeches, white lace (square loops); grenadier cap bore yellow 'GR' on blue ground within circle of St. Andrew in green;

loops on waistcoat. 1st Bn. orders 1762 note white waistcoats, long and short gaiters, black gaiters worn only for duty, but black garters at all times; sword and waist-belt at all times (but no swords 1768). Officers' lace gold; plain white waistcoat and breeches 1768, NCOs buckskin breeches.

## 2nd Foot (Queen's Royal Regiment)

Cols.: Hon. John Fitzwilliam, Nov. 1755; Sir Charles Montagu, Nov. 1760.  
Service: Ireland until 1768.  
Uniform: 1751 'sea green' facings (Morier shows pale green, but extant grenadier cap has sky blue front). White lace with broken, diagonal sea green line, pointed loops; grenadier cap bore Queen's cypher 'CaRa' on red ground within crowned Garter; Queen's cypher over number on drums.

## 3rd Foot (Buff's)

Cols.: Sir George Howard, Aug. 1749;

John Craufurd, May 1763.

Service: Belle Isle, Portugal. 2nd Bn. formed 1755-56, became 61st 1758.  
Uniform: 1751 buff facings, white lace with black/red/yellow stripe at edges, pointed loops. Green dragon with red tongue on grenadier cap. Officers' coat bound and looped silver 1754-55; portrait c.1755 shows buff waistcoat laced silver.

## 4th Foot (King's Own Regt.)

Col.: Alexander Duroure, May 1756 (regt. apparently still called 'Barrell's' unofficially, after Col. William Barrell, 1734-49).  
Service: Minorca, W. Indies; 2nd Bn. became 62nd.  
Uniform: 1751, blue facings and breeches, white lace with blue zigzag, square loops; wings worn by grenadiers; grenadier cap bore yellow 'GR' on red ground within Garter. Red waistcoat, blue breeches noted 1757, but white breeches, lining and officers' waistcoat 1765; linen lining, waistcoat and breeches in W. Indies. Battalion swords withdrawn before embarkation. Officers' lace changed from gold to silver long before 1758, when change noted officially; binding on lapels changed to loops some time between 1746 and 1768<sup>121</sup>. Officers' lace described as narrow 1764; regt. orders note buff gloves 1757. Portrait of Lt. Col. George Maddison, 1763 or later, shows light infantry modification: coat cut short, no lace save fringed epaulette right; white waistcoat, breeches, stockings, black ankle-gaiters, sword on shoulder-belt; asymmetrically-fronted light dragoon-style

helmet with front painted black or dark blue bearing silver lion badge and edge, red mane on a comb, and apparently a rurban. 1765 pioneers wore bearskin caps with plates, grenadier officers carried fusils, rest espartooners.

## 5th Foot

Cols.: Lord George Beninck, Aug. 1754; Studholme Hodgson, Oct. 1759.  
Service: French coast 1758, Germany.  
Uniform: 1751, gosling green facings, white lace (pointed loops, chevrons on sleeve), wings for grenadiers; grenadier cap bore St. George and dragon in full colour. Lace white at inspection May 1755, 'mixed' (white and green) by October. Officers' facings described as pale green 1755, silver binding; no lace save epaulette, right, 1766, and white waistcoat and breeches instead of green. 1767, no match-cases and only 30 swords. Regt. said to be known as 'The Shiners' from immaculate appearance.

## 6th Foot

Col.: John Guise, Nov. 1738.  
Service: Gibraltar.  
Uniform: 1751, deep yellow facings (brownish tinge), white lace with red zigzag and arrows, pointed loops; grenadier caps bore white antelope on green ground. 1751, sergeants wore sashes around waist, which was forbidden by inspecting officer; 1764, silver-mounted swords purchased by sergeants.

## 7th Foot (Royal Fusiliers)

Col.: Lord Robert Bertie, Aug. 1754.  
Service: Gibraltar.  
Uniform: 1751, blue facings and breeches (red breeches 1755), white lace with blue stripe, pointed loops; grenadier cap bore red rose on blue ground within Garter. Officers' lace gold (binding 'pretty broad' 1768), buff waistcoat and breeches 1755.

## 8th Foot (King's Regt.)

Cols.: Edward Wolfe, Apr. 1745; Hon. John Barrington, Oct. 1759.  
Service: Germany; 2nd Bn. raised 1757, became 63rd 1758.  
Uniform: 1751, blue facings and breeches, lace white with yellow stripe, pointed loops; wings for grenadiers; grenadier cap bore white horse on red backing within Garter. Officers' lace gold (1757, 'very good and handsome').

Captain George Scott, 40th Foot: a portrait showing an extremely rare contemporary depiction of an officer's cut-down uniform; cut-down hat with up-turned brim (probably styled on a gentleman's hunting cap); and pouch, powder horn and fusil (left); see colour plate B for the former reconstructed. The scarlet coat has plain buff facings; waistcoat and breeches are buff, with gold lace only on the former. (Frick Art Reference Library)



**Right:**

John, 3rd Earl Waldegrave, an officer in the 2nd Foot Guards; engraving by Walker & Boutell after Thomas Gainsborough. Note the very wide gold lace worn by the Guards; the very large queue ribbon; and, just visible, a shoulder knot apparently made of flat lace rather than cord.

**Below:**

General William Kingsley, colonel of the 20th Foot; mezzotint by R. Houston after Sir Joshua Reynolds, 1760. Note shoulder knot, apparently of flat lace; coat lining; and cuirass worn under coat — possibly an artistic convention, though some senior officers, like their French contemporaries, e.g. Montcalm, may have actually worn this outdated item.

**Below right:**

The Hon. Robert Mouckton as colonel of the 17th Foot; mezzotint by J. McArdeil after T. Hudson. Note cord shoulder knot; 'unfaced' side of lapels; and gorget worn over the sash.

**9th Foot**

Cols.: Sir Joseph Yorke, Lord Dover, Mar. 1755; William Whitmore, Oct. 1758.

Service: Belle Isle, Havana.

Uniform: 1751, yellow facings ('light orange' 1733, Morier shows ochre); white lace with blue edges, red stripe, pointed loops; described as purple and white 1755.

**10th Foot**

Cols.: Edward Pole, Aug. 1749; Edward Sandford, Jan. 1763.

Service: Home.

Uniform: 1751, bright yellow facings (but portrait of Lt. Col. Francis Smith 1764 shows deeper shade), lace white with red and yellow stripe and double black or dark blue zigzag, pointed loops. Officers' lace silver; Smith portrait shows broad silver binding but thread loops, shallow collar edged sil-

ver, double binding to cuff-flaps and pockets; red waistcoat with silver binding to pocket-flaps.

**11th Foot**

Col.: Maurice Boland, Dec. 1747.

Service: Germany; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 64th 1758.

Uniform: 1751, 'full green' facings, white lace with two green and two red stripes, pointed loops. Officers' lace gold, red waistcoat and breeches 1758 but unlaced white waistcoat 1765.

**12th Foot**

Cols.: Henry Skelton, May 1745; Robert Napier, Apr. 1757.

Service: Germany (Minden); 2nd Bn. raised 1756, became 65th 1758.

Uniform: 1751, yellow facings, white lace with yellow stripe, pointed loops; 1755, grenadiers had brass grenades on pouches; 1758, sergeants' hats with gold lace, men's white worsted. Officers' lace gold. 1766, officers' waistcoat and breeches white instead of red, white lining instead of yellow; other ranks, white lining.

**13th Foot**

Col.: Hon. Harry Pulteney, July 1739.

Service: Gibraltar.

Uniform: 1751, philemoi yellow facings, white lace with blue and red zigzags, pointed loops (Baillie shows square loops); Morier shows no wings for grenadiers, but Baillie does. Portrait of Baillie shows officer's uniform with silver binding and loops. 1753, reported that cartridge box and pouch worn together, 'convenient in marching'; 1764, only 75 swords; 1766, white waistcoat and breeches instead of red, white lining instead of yellow; black bearskin caps for grenadiers, white for drummers.

**14th Foot**

Col.: Charles Jeffreys, Sept. 1756.

Service: Gibraltar to 1759, then home.





*Uniform:* 1751, buff facings, white lace with blue zigzag between red and blue stripes, square loops; officers' lace silver, 1764, officers with no shoulder-knots; 1765 buff breeches instead of red, grenadier caps with red fronts, motto and horse in white metal.

#### 15th Foot

*Col.:* Sir Jeffrey Amherst, May 1756.  
*Service:* Rochefort, America (Quebec), W. Indies.

*Uniform:* 1751, yellow facings (chart of c.1763 shows orange-yellow), white lace with yellow and black edge, square loops. Officers' lace silver, shoulder-knots noted 1754; 1768, still red waistcoats but white breeches. 1757 Lt. Col.

James Murray noted that he had cocked the regiment's hats as Amherst directed, and added 'a Hatband and Tassel a la Hanoverien. I think it gives the Soldier a good air' <sup>13</sup>.

#### 16th Foot

*Cols.:* Roger Handasyde, July 1730; Hon. Robert Brudenell, Jan. 1763.  
*Service:* Ireland.

*Uniform:* 1751 bright yellow facings, white lace with yellow zigzag between two red stripes, square loops (two chevrons on sleeves), loops on waistcoat, wings for grenadiers; officers' lace silver.

#### 17th Foot

*Cols.:* John Forbes, Feb. 1757; Hon. Robert Monckton, Oct. 1759.  
*Service:* America, W. Indies.

*Uniform:* 1751, greyish-white facings, white lace with double grey zigzag between two blue stripes, pointed loops; loops on waistcoat; wings for grenadiers. Greyish-white waistcoat, breeches and lining 1768. Officers' lace silver.

#### 18th Foot (Royal Irish Regt.)

*Cols.:* John Folliott, Dec. 1747; Sir John Sebright Bt., Apr. 1762.

*Service:* Home.

*Uniform:* 1751, blue facings and breeches, white lace with blue worm, square loops; wings for grenadiers; grenadier caps bore yellow harp with white strings. Officers' lace gold. 1755, grenadiers' pouches with buff flaps (Morier shows black); 1767, no swords. Morier shows brown drum with red hoops, which would bear crowned harp over number.

#### 19th Foot

*Col.:* Lord George Beauclerk, March

1748.

*Service:* Belle Isle, Gibraltar; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 66th 1758.

*Uniform:* 1751, yellowish-green facings, white lace with red inside blue stripe on each edge, square loops; 1759, 'brown mixed lace', c.1763 white and yellowish-green; wings for grenadiers. 1758, only sergeants and drummers with swords.

#### 20th Foot

*Col.:* William Kingsley, May 1756.

*Service:* Aix, Germany (Min-den); 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 67th 1758.

*Uniform:* 1751, pale yellow facings, white lace with two black, two red stripes, square loops; grenadiers had wings. Highmore's portrait of Wolfe (c.1749-50) shows facings bound and looped silver, double lace around neck. 1766, black bearskin grenadier caps sanctioned.

#### 21st Foot (Royal North British Fusiliers)

*Col.:* William Maule, Earl of Panmure, Apr. 1752.

*Service:* Gibraltar 1753-60; Belle Isle.

*Uniform:* 1751, blue facings, white lace with yellow stipe and black scroll, square loops, blue breeches, no loops on waistcoat; grenadier caps bore thistle on blue ground within 'circle of St. Andrew'. Portrait of Maj. Hon. Andrew Sandilands by Ramsay, 1751, shows silver binding to facings, double lace around neck, blue collar-patch edged silver, buff waistcoat bound silver. Portrait of Maj. Norton Knatchbull (retired 1757) shows similar lace but gold, scarlet waistcoat (bound gold) and breeches.

#### 22nd Foot

*Cols.:* Richard O'Farrell, Aug. 1741; Edward Whitmore, July 1757; Hon. Thomas Gage, March 1762.

*Service:* America, W. Indies.

*Uniform:* 1751, pale buff facings, white lace with edging of mixed red and blue, square loops, wings for grenadiers, no loops on waistcoat. Officers' lace gold, buff lining 1768.

#### 23rd Foot (Royal Welsh Fusiliers)

*Cols.:* John Huske, July 1743; Hon.

#### Left:

Rare eyewitness sketches of soldiers exist in the work of the brothers Thomas (1721-98) and Paul Sandby (1725-1809); Thomas accompanied the Duke of Cumberland on campaign in Scotland and the Netherlands. These illustrations of service dress are somewhat later, towards the end of the period under review. They show unshaven hide knapsacks worn on shoulder straps with a connecting breast strap (a later fashion), the bayonet belt worn over the shoulder, and gaiters with reinforced tops. The large cartridge box flap is shown bent up at the edge by age and use; below it heart-shaped patches can be seen on the turnbacks. One of the hats has a slightly flattened front 'corner', a feature more prevalent towards the 1770s. Muskets seem often to have been carried 'clubbed' like this. (Windsor Castle, Royal Library; © 1991 Her Majesty the Queen)



George Boscawen, Jan. 1761.  
*Service:* Minorca. Germany (Minden); 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 68th.  
*Uniform:* 1751, blue facings and breeches, lace white with blue within yellow edge and mixed red and white inside, pointed loops (none on waistcoat); grenadier caps bore Prince of Wales' feathers. Officers' uniform with narrow gold binding (noted 1757, 1765), buff waistcoat and breeches 1765. 1763, notes esponsions broken or lost in Germany; officers carried fuzils from 1757 at least, but not until 1770 were fusilier officers (7th, 21st, 23rd) officially permitted to carry them.

#### 24th Foot

*Col.:* Hon. Edward Cornwallis, Feb. 1752.  
*Service:* Minorca, French coast, Germany; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, with 1st at St. Malo, became 69th 1758.  
*Uniform:* 1751, willow green facings, white lining; white lace with green stripe on one edge, square loops (none on waistcoat). Officer's portrait, Minorca 1755, shows silver binding but no loops, large silver aiguillette.

#### 25th Foot

*Cols.:* William, Earl of Home, Apr. 1752; Sir Henry Erskine Bt., May 1761; Lord George Lennox, Dec. 1762.  
*Service:* French coast, Germany (Minden).  
*Uniform:* 1751, deep yellow facings, white lace with red and black stripes, square loops (none on waistcoat), wings for grenadiers; 1756 lace described as white and yellow with red and blue stripes; officers' lace gold, shoulder-knots 1753; 1766 white breeches (and officers' waistcoat), black bearskin cap for grenadiers; 1768 no swords, sergeants carried canes, bagpiper in band.

#### 26th Foot

*Cols.:* Philip Anstruther, May 1720; Edward Sandford, Nov. 1760.  
*Service:* Home.  
*Uniform:* 1751 pale yellow facings, white lace with two yellow stripes, square loops, wings for grenadiers.

#### 27th Foot (Inniskilling Regt.)

*Cols.:* William, Lord Blakeney, June 1737; Hugh Warburton, Sept. 1761.  
*Service:* America, W. Indies.  
*Uniform:* 1751 buff facings, white lace with yellow stripe between black and blue zigzags, wings for grenadiers; grenadier cap bore three-turreted castle with St. George's flag flying, with 'Inniskilling' above; officers' lace silver. Deserter description in *New York Mercury*, 1761 mentions red breeches, blanket coat, green waistcoat (man having served in Rangers); another in blue waistcoat and breeches.

#### 28th Foot

*Cols.:* Philip Bragg, Oct. 1734; George, Marquess Townshend, Oct. 1759.  
*Service:* America, Havana.  
*Uniform:* 1751, bright yellow facings, white lace with yellow edges and black diamond pattern, square loops (none on waistcoat); officers' lace silver (gold 1768); 1768, light company had short

#### Right:

*Ensign and private, Royal Lancashire Militia, evidently adapted from the plates in A Plan of Discipline for the Use of the Militia of the County of Norfolk (London, 1759). This is a rare depiction of the single-breasted infantry coat, as worn by the 41st (Invalid) Regiment in a Morier painting.*

coats and caps, but had ordinary uniform also.

#### 29th Foot

*Cols.:* Hon. George Boscawen, March 1752; George Forbes, Earl of Granard, Jan. 1761.

*Service:* Ireland.

*Uniform:* 1751 yellow facings, white lace with red inside blue stripes, blue scroll between, square loops (none on waistcoat); officers' lace silver. Black drummers from 1759, the first ten being Negroes appropriated at Guadeloupe by Admiral Boscawen, who gave them to his brother, the 29th's colonel.

#### 30th Foot

*Col.:* John Campbell, Earl of Loudon, Nov. 1749.

*Service:* French coast, Gibraltar.

*Uniform:* 1751, pale yellow facings, white lace with two blue stripes, square loops (none on waistcoat); officers' lace silver, shoulder-knot noted 1750; 1755 bearskin grenadier caps, white for drummers.

#### 31st Foot

*Cols.:* Henry Holmes, May 1749; Sir James Oughton, Aug. 1762.

*Service:* Home; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 10th 1758.

*Uniform:* 1751, buff facings, white lace with two green stripes, pointed loops (and on waistcoat, chevrons on sleeve), wings for grenadiers; officers' lace gold, loops and shoulder-knots noted 1730.

#### 32nd Foot

*Col.:* Francis Leighton, Dec. 1747.

*Service:* Scotland; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 71st 1758.

*Uniform:* 1751, white facings, lace white with two black stripes and black zigzag between, pointed loops (see closely on waistcoat), wings for grenadiers.

#### 33rd Foot

*Cols.:* Lord Charles Hay, Nov. 1753; John Griffin, Lord Howard de Walden, May 1760.

*Service:* French coast, Germany; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 72nd 1758.

*Uniform:* 1751, red facings, white lace and linings, pointed loops (none on waistcoat), wings for grenadiers. Officers' lace silver; loops and shoulder-knots noted 1739. Morier shows cartridge-box flap buff, but accoutrements-list 1754 notes blackened

#### Right:

*Grenadier, 13th Foot, 1753: drawn and engraved by Lt. William Baillie. The main difference between this and Morier's version is that Baillie shows wings on the coat. (Photo Michael Robson; courtesy the Trustees of the Light Infantry Museum, Taunton)*



flaps; sergeants had silver-mounted swords at own expense. 1766, black bearskin grenadier caps.

#### 34th Foot

*Col.*: Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Dec. 1754; Lord Frederick Cavendish, Oct. 1760.

*Service*: Minorca, French coast, Havana; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 73rd.

*Uniform*: 1751, bright yellow facings, white lace with yellow snipe and blue scull, square loops; wings for grenadiers.

#### 35th Foot

*Col.*: Charles Otway, July 1717.

*Service*: America (Quebec), W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, orange facings, white lace with yellow and red stripe with yellow zigzag between, square loops (none on waistcoat). Officer portrait c.1767 shows silver loops, low scarlet upright collar with silver loop, silver fringed shoulder-strap right, white waistcoat.

#### 36th Foot

*Col.*: Lord Robert Manners, March 1751.

*Service*: Belle Isle; 2nd Bn. formed 1756, became 74th 1758.

*Uniform*: 1751, green facings, white lace with green stripe, square loops (none on waistcoat); officers' lace silver. Morier's grenadier has long hair worn in 17th century style, not tied back into a queue.

#### 37th Foot

*Col.*: Hon. James Stewart, Nov. 1752.

*Service*: Germany (Minden); 2nd Bn. became 75th.

*Uniform*: 1751, yellow facings (orange tinge), white lace with red and blue zigzags with two yellow stripes between, square loops (but waistcoat-loops appear pointed in Morier's painting). 1755, lace described as mixed red, green, white and yellow; officers' lace gold, shoulder-knots noted 1734. Morier's grenadier has hair in plaits hanging from temples.

#### 38th Foot

*Col.*: Sir James Ross Bt., May 1756; David Watson, Oct. 1760; Andrew Robinson, Nov. 1761; Sharrington Talbot, Apr. 1762.

*Service*: West Indies 1706-65, mostly Antigua.

*Uniform*: 1751, yellow facings; white lace with yellow stripe between two green, square loops (very much smaller loops on waistcoat).

#### 39th Foot

*Col.*: John Adlercron, March 1752.

*Service*: India 1754-58 (Plassey); then home.

*Uniform*: 1751, green facings, white lace with green worm, square loops (none on waistcoat); shoulder-strap edged with lace.

#### 40th Foot

*Col.*: Peregrine Hopson, March 1752; Hon. John Barrington, June 1759; Robert Armiger, Dec. 1760.

*Service*: Formed 1717 at Annapolis Royal and spent next 46 years on foreign service; America, W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, buff facings, white lace with black stripe between two buff, square loops; officers' lace gold, buff waistcoat and breeches shown in Copley's portrait of Capt. Scott.

#### 41st Foot

*Col.*: John Parsons, March 1752; Alexander Leslie, Lord Lindores, May 1764.

*Service*: Regiment of Invalids, formed from Orm-Pensioners of Chelsea Hospital, used for garrison duty until it became a proper line regt. 1787.

*Uniform*: Blue facings and breeches, no lace; Morier shows single-breasted coat with no lapels. 1751 Warrant noted grenadier caps to bear rose and thistle on red ground, within crown'd Garter.

42nd Foot: Highland regiment; see Part 3 of this series.

#### 43rd Foot

*Col.*: James Kennedy, Feb. 1746; Sharrington Talbot, March 1761; Bennet Noel, Apr. 1762.

*Service*: America (Quebec), W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, white facings, white lace with black stars between two red stripes, pointed loops, chevrons on sleeve, wings for grenadiers. Officers' lace gold (yellow buttons in 1761 list of forces in America) but silver 1768; 1764 accoutrements whitened; 1767, bearskin caps purchased.

#### 44th Foot

*Col.*: Robert Ellison, Nov. 1755; James Abernethy, Mar. 1756.

*Service*: America until 1765.

*Uniform*: 1751, yellow facings (Morier shows ochre, brownish-yellow shown 1742), white lace with black and blue zigzags, yellow stripe between, pointed loops; waistcoat bound with white lace and with very narrow button-hole loops.

#### 45th Foot

*Col.*: Hugh Watbourn, June 1745; Andrew Robinson, Sept. 1761; Hon. John Boscawen, Nov. 1761.

*Service*: America 1746-66.

*Uniform*: 1751, deep green facings (bluish-green shown by Morier); white lace with deep green stripe and stars, pointed loops (none on waistcoat); shoulder-strap edged with lace.

#### 46th Foot

*Col.*: Hon. Thomas Murray, June 1743.

*Service*: America, W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, yellow facings (with orange tinge in chain of c.1763), white lace with double black zigzag and red stripe, pointed loops, chevrons on sleeve and skirt, wings for grenadiers. Known as 'Murray's Bucks' from smart appearance.

#### 47th Foot

*Col.*: Peregrine Lascelles, March 1743.

*Service*: America (Quebec), W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, white facings, white lace with two yellow between two black zigzags, pointed loops (none on waistcoat); officers' lace silver. Purchased old uniforms of Shirley's 50th 1759, hence the line in Boswood's song *Hot Stuff* ('our clothing is changed'); 1768, hair tied on with black tapes sewn to lining, whitened

accoutrements; officers wore boots, no shoulder-knot, grenadier officers with red leather sword-belts over shoulder, with silver buckle and tip.

#### 48th Foot

*Col.*: Daniel Webb, Nov. 1755.

*Service*: America (Quebec), W. Indies.

*Uniform*: 1751, buff facings, white lace with yellow snipe between green (or blue?) stripe and scroll, square loops; yellow buttons in 1761 list. Portrait of Maj. Gabriel Christie c.1760 shows gold binding and loops, double gold lace at neck, knot at rear of right shoulder. 1768, officers' coats plain, faced light buff, gilt buttons, gold epaulettes, buff serge lining, buff waistcoat and breeches, plain hat with gold loop; whitened accoutrements with pouches worn not far behind.

#### 49th Foot

*Col.*: George Walsh, Jan. 1754; John Stanwix, Oct. 1761.

*Service*: In W. Indies for almost half a century.

*Uniform*: 1751, full green facings (shown with bluish tinge by Morier), white lace with yellow stripe between two green worms, square loops.

#### Shirley's and Pepperell's Regts.

Two regts. formed America Dec. 1754, numbered 50th (Col. William Shirley) and 51st (Sir William Pepperell); both captured at Oswego and remnants disbanded 1757; should not be confused with Shirley's and Pepperell's earlier regts. (65th and 66th) disbanded 1749, not with subsequent 50th and 51st.

*Uniform*: red facings for both, white buttons and lace; sergeant of 51st remarked on silver-laced hat, so presumably officers wore same, but an excavated button bearing '51' is gilt; this would be most singular if it belongs to Pepperell's, as it would pre-date by at least a decade the order for numbering of buttons, but may indicate that 51st officers adopted gold lace to distinguish them from Shirley's. Sergeants and grenadiers had brass-hilted lances, privates and drummers iron-hilted; cartridge-boxes small and badly-made, drilled to take 12 cartridges but holes not large enough to allow cartridges to fit.

#### 50th Foot

*Col.*: Sudholme Hodgson, May 1756; John Griffin, Lord Howard de Walden, Oct. 1759; Edward Carr, May 1760.

*Service*: Raised Dec. 1755 as 52nd, renumbered 50th 1757; Germany.

*Uniform*: Black facings; black lining 1757, white 1758; white and black lace, officers' silver. 1758, officers' facings black velvet, white waistcoat and breeches, ORs white linen and black leather gaiters.

#### 51st Foot

*Col.*: Robert Napier, Dec. 1755; Thomas Brudenell, Apr. 1757.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 53rd, renumbered 51st; Germany (Minden).

*Uniform*: Sea-green facings (reputedly copied from 2nd, in which Napier had served), white lace with green worm, officers' gold; 1759 Army List states yellow lace (officers'?).

#### 52nd Foot

*Col.*: Hedworth Lambton, Dec. 1755; Edward Sandford, June 1758; Sir John Sebright Bt., Nov. 1760; Sir John Clavering, Apr. 1762.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 54th, renumbered 52nd 1757; home.

*Uniform*: Buff facings, white lace with red and orange stripe, officers' lace gold. Portrait of Capt. Edward O'Brien c.1766 shows plain coat, buff facings, shoulder-snaps, waistcoat, breeches, gloves, no lace save gold on hat, gilt buttons, red cuff-flaps with twist loops, fusil.

#### 53rd Foot

*Col.*: William Whitmore, Dec. 1755; John Toovey, Apr. 1759.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 55th, renumbered 53rd 1757; Gibraltar.

*Uniform*: Red facings, lace white and red, officers' lace silver.

#### 54th Foot

*Col.*: John Campbell, Duke of Argyll, Dec. 1755; John Grey, Apr. 1757; John Parslow, Sept. 1760.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 56th, renumbered 54th 1757. Gibraltar and as marines 1756-65.

*Uniform*: Popinjay green facings, lace yellow; officers' lace silver.

#### 55th Foot

*Col.*: Charles Perry, Dec. 1755; George, Viscount Howe, Sept. 1757 (killed Ticonderoga); John Prideaux, Oct. 1758 (killed Fort Niagara); Sir James Oughton, July 1759; William Gansell, Aug. 1762.

*Service*: raised 1755 as 57th, renumbered 55th 1757; America.

*Uniform*: Dark green facings, officers' lace gold; 1759 and 1761 Army Lists give deep green facings, yellow lace.

#### 56th Foot

*Col.*: Lord Charles Manners, Dec. 1755; Hon. William Keppell, Dec. 1761.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 58th, renumbered 56th 1757; Havana.

*Uniform*: Deep crimson facings, sometimes styled 'pompador' (e.g. Inspection Return 1756), but document of previous month mentions crimson cloth. 1763 Army List states 'deep crimson' (but notes 111th 'pompador', presumably indicating a different shade). Facings changed to 'a purple colour' by order of Oct. 1764, which notes lace to be pink and white, and breeches and accoutrements white. Red lining 1756; officers' lace gold.

#### 57th Foot

*Col.*: John Arabin, Dec. 1755; Sir David Cuninghame Bt., March 1757.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 59th, renumbered 57th 1757; Gibraltar and as marines 1757-63.

*Uniform*: Bright yellow facings, officers' lace gold.

#### 58th Foot

*Col.*: Robert Anstruther, Dec. 1755.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 60th, renumbered 58th 1757; America (Quebec), Havana.

*Uniform*: Black facings, buff lining; lace yellow, officers' gold. 1756, grenadiers

noted carrying pouches too high; swords for grenadiers only. 1767 coats had no skirts, hats too small and bearing red and white tuft; 1768, officers with gold shoulder-knot, buff waistcoat and breeches edged black velvet, black and gold sword-knots (excessive use of facing-colour!).

#### 59th Foot

*Cols.*: Sir Charles Montagu, Dec. 1755; John Owen, Nov. 1760.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 61st, renumbered 59th 1757; Ireland.

*Uniform*: originally 'pompadour' facings, also described as 'light crimson'; red lining, yellow lace; officers' lace gold, noted both broad and narrow 1759, hats with gold lace and loop.

#### 60th Foot (Royal American Regt.)

*Cols.*: John Campbell, Earl of Loudon, Dec. 1755; Lord Amherst, Sept. 1758.

*Service*: Raised 1755 in America as 62nd, renumbered 60th 1757, with special Act of Parliament to allow foreigners to hold commissions, to serve in America only; recruits included Americans, Germans, and some British. Four bns.; 2nd and 3rd especially saw much active service (Quebec), and 3rd in W. Indies.

*Uniform*: Blue facings, no lace; officers' lace silver (portrait of Lt. Col. Bouquet shows silver loops but no lace binding); 1st Bn. trained as light infantry, including some use of rifled carbines from May 1758; intended to have blue leggings, but as cloth not available, green with red garters were adopted.

#### 61st Foot

*Cols.*: Granville Elliott, Apr. 1759; Sir George Gray Bt. July 1759.

*Service*: Raised 1755 as 2nd Bn. 3rd, renumbered 61st 1758; W. Indies.

*Uniform*: Buff facings (and waistcoat and breeches 1758), white lace with blue stripe, officers' lace silver.

#### 62nd Foot

*Col.*: William Strode, Apr. 1758.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 4th, renumbered 62nd 1758; Ireland.

*Uniform*: Buff facings (yellowish-buff 1768), white lace with two black and two buff stripes.

#### 63rd Foot

*Cols.*: David Watson, Apr. 1758; Sir William Boothby Bt., Oct. 1760.

*Service*: Formed 1757 as 2nd Bn. 8th, renumbered 63rd 1758; French coast, W. Indies.

*Uniform*: Very deep green facings, buff lining, white lace with diagonal green stripes. Linen lining, thread or linen stockings in Guadeloupe 1759.

#### 64th Foot

*Cols.*: Hon. John Barrington, Apr. 1758; George, Marquess Townshend, June 1759; Hon. George Carey, Dec. 1759.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 11th, renumbered 64th 1758. W. Indies.

*Uniform*: Black facings, white lining, white lace with yellow stripe; 1767, no uniformity in hats, sergeants' with yellow lace, ORs' white, officers none (gold 1768); 1767, only 64 swords.

#### 65th Foot

*Cols.*: Robert Armiger, Apr. 1758; George, Earl Cholmondeley, Dec. 1760.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 12th, renumbered 65th 1758; W. Indies.

*Uniform*: White facings, white lace with deep yellow, blue and red stripes and blue worm; officers' lace silver.

#### 66th Foot

*Cols.*: Edward Sandford, Apr. 1758 (killed Quebec); John La Faussile, Aug. 1758; Lord Adam Gordon, Jan. 1763.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 19th, renumbered 66th 1758. Five coys. served as marines 1760, rest home; Jamaica 1762-73.

*Uniform*: Yellowish-green facings, white lace with two crimson stripes; 1759, officers' coats looped and bound gold, buff waistcoat and breeches. Coloured chart of c.1763 shows pale buff facings: error?

#### 67th Foot

*Cols.*: James Wolfe, Apr. 1758 (killed Quebec); Lord Frederick Cavendish, Oct. 1759; Sir Henry Erskine Bt., Oct. 1760; Hamilton Lambert, May 1761.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 20th, renumbered 67th 1758; Belle Isle, Portugal 1762, Minorca 1763-71.

*Uniform*: Yellow facings, white lace with yellowish-green stripe.

#### 68th Foot

*Col.*: John Lambton, Apr. 1758.

*Service*: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 23rd, renumbered 68th 1758; French coast, W. Indies.

*Uniform*: Very dark green facings, white lace with two yellow and one black stripe.

#### Right:

Front and back view of a surviving grenadier cap, 49th Foot (Cholmondeley's), 1747-48. Note the much simpler embroidery than found on officers' caps. This is an example of the difficulty of reconciling artefacts with facings listed in the war-rants. In 1739-40 ten regiments of Marines, all pre-dating the 44th and higher numbered regiments, were taken into the line; they were numbered 44th to 53rd, and the previous 44th-53rd Regts. moved up in number accordingly, the 49th becoming the 59th. It reverted to the 49th in 1748 when the Marine regiments were disbanded; but the following year the 42nd disbanded, and all higher-numbered regiments moved down one number, i.e. the 49th now became the 48th, and the new 49th was the former 50th.

Under the 1751 Warrant, and in Morier's paintings, the 49th had green facings, the 50th black. But this cap, under careful examination, appears to retain original buff facing-colour on the front and on the small rear turn-up, and so must date from earlier. The cypher, and the number and foliate embroidery on the turn-up, are now blueish-green; the 'ground' beneath the virile White Horse of Hanover on the red 'little flap' is alternate white and blue-green, and the verticals up the red back are buff. (National Army Museum)







#### Left top:

Grenadiers of the 46th, 47th and 48th Foot: David Morier, c.1751. This is especially useful in depicting full fight equipment — unshaven hide knapsack and fabric haversack slung diagonally over the right and left shoulders, canteen, and additional 'belly' cartridge box on a strap at the waist. (Windsor Castle, Royal Library, © 1991 Her Majesty the Queen)

#### Left bottom:

Grenadier of the 49th; and fifer and drummer of the Foot Guards. The 49th man wears field equipment; note how high the haversack is worn, presumably so as not to impede access to the cartridge box. The waist belt is worn over the right shoulder, and because of its short length relative to a true shoulder belt this brings the bayonet and hanger high up under the left arm. The white embroidery on the cap front does not match that of the earlier surviving example illustrated on p.37. The Foot Guards musicians have royal livery — red coats with blue and yellow lace — and trophies of arms and instruments on their caps. (Windsor Castle, Royal Library, © 1991 Her Majesty the Queen)

#### 69th Foot

Col.: Hon. Charles Colville, Apr. 1758. Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 24th, renumbered 69th 1758; Belle Isle. Uniform: Willow green facings, white lining (distinctions of parent unit), white lace with two yellow and black stripes.

#### 70th Foot

Cols.: John Parslow, Apr. 1758; Cyrus Trapaud, July 1760. Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 31st, renumbered 70th 1758. Five coys. sent to India 1760. Uniform: Deep grey facings (from which, and from recruiting-area, regt. known as 'Glasgow Greys'), white lining, white lace with blue stripe.

#### 71st Foot

Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 32nd, renumbered 71st 1758; French coast, W. Indies; disbanded 1763. Uniform: White facings, white lace with two black, one red stripe.

#### 72nd Foot (Duke of Richmond's)

Service: Raised 1756 as 2nd Bn. 33rd, renumbered 72nd 1758; French coast, Havana; disbanded 1763. Uniform: Red facings, white lining, white lace with two red and one black stripe.

#### 73rd Foot

Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 34th, renumbered 73rd; Ireland; disbanded 1763. Uniform: Full green facings, white lace with blue and deep yellow stripes.

#### 74th Foot (Talbot's)

Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 36th, renumbered 74th 1758; Goree 1758, Jamaica; disbanded 1763. Uniform: Deep green facings, white lace with two red, one yellow stripe. Ticken breeches and thread stockings in Jamaica.



Detail from engraving by T. E. Nicholson of Hogarth's 'March of the Guards towards Scotland', executed in 1750; note drummer and fifer at left, grenadier at right.

#### 75th Foot (Boscawen's)

Service: Formed 1756 as 2nd Bn. 37th, renumbered 75th 1758; Belle Isle, Portugal; disbanded 1763. Uniform: Red facings, buff lining and drummers' coats; white lace with two green, two yellow stripes.

#### 76th Foot (Lord Forbes')

Service: Irish regt. raised 1756 by George, Lord Forbes, 2 bns.; 1st Bn. Belle Isle, West Indies, disbanded 1763. 2nd Bn. went on Gorce expedition, part captured by Maors when shipwrecked on Barbary coast; remainder became 86th.

77th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3 of this series.

78th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

#### 79th Foot (Draper's)

Service: Raised Nov. 1757 by Sir William Draper from drafts of 4th, 8th and 24th, sergeants from Foot Guards; India from 1758, Manila 1762; disbanded 1764. (Numbered 64th 1757-58).

#### 80th Foot (Gage's Light Infantry)

Service: Raised (5 coys.) 1757-58 in America by Hon. Thomas Gage, as light infantry; disbanded 1763. Uniform: Brown shirt coats, brown facings and lining, no lace, black breeches.

#### Captions to colour plates overleaf:

##### (A) Officers on campaign in Europe. Left, Grenadier officer, 37th Foot, wearing a civilian coat. He has taken up an espouson to use while supervising drill; grenadier officers normally carried fusils. Centre, senior officer of the 23th Foot wearing that regiment's deep yellow facings. The 1756 inspection Return described the regiment's uniforms as 'rich and good'. Note red waistcoat and breeches; shoulder knot; gorget; sash; and sword worn beneath coat from belt beneath waistcoat. Right, Grenadier officer of the 51st Foot, which wore sea-green facings reputedly copied from Col. Robert Napier's previous regiment, the 2nd Queen's Royals. Note the richly embroidered mitre cap; the arrangement of the coat with lapels largely folded across; and the gloves.

(B) Officers on campaign in Europe. Left, Foot Guards officer, wearing a semi-civilian 'frock' coat in the blue noted by several contemporary sources, here with the addition of a shawl-knot. He wears an old-style wig; gaiters with leather tops (which the 2nd Guards were ordered to adopt in January 1759, for example); and an unofficial cartridge box at the front of the waist. Right, Officer, 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers. The September 1757 inspection Return of the 1st Bn. notes that officers had only 'frocks' faced blue and bound with narrow gold lace. By 1765 the smallclothes had changed to buff. Like his companion he wears a fashionably small hat. He carries no espouson; those of the 23rd were

reported as lost or broken in Germany — conceivably an excuse to allow all officers to carry fusils, official permission for which was not granted until 1770.

(C) Officer, 85th Royal Volunteers. From a contemporary print (vide JSAHR XXXVI, 1958: 'His Majesty's Light Infantry 1759-63', W. Y. Carran), this shows the unique uniform of a regiment formed specifically as light infantry, with a cut-down coat, hat cocked in 'Henry VIII' style, and officers armed with fusils. Note the singular lacing on the breast — one loop over two, over three, over four; and the absence of a sash, which officers were supposed to wear around the waist.

(D) Officer on campaign in North America. This colonel is attended by his soldier-servant (left), an experienced man of good record, perhaps chosen also because he could read and write, to perform clerking duties. His own civilian valet-servant puffs on his hair powder; the officer wears a powdering-gown to keep it off his uniform. This was not a sign of a fop, out of his depth in the wilderness; he wears dress uniform and powder when appropriate, to maintain the standards expected of a gentleman and to set an example, but is not averse to the use of cut-down clothing when circumstances demand, as worn by his protégé, the young subaltern sitting on the log. A typical portmanteau is in the foreground; and the private in the right background wears a stocking-ferse cap, after Morier. (Paintings all by Gerry Limbourn)

Continued on page 43





B



C



D







### Opposite:

*Details of the cut of officers' uniforms, mostly copied from contemporary sources. (A) Civilian-style greatcoats, which may have been the basic style of the other ranks' 'waistcoats'. (B) Officer's coat, from that of Capt. Plumbe, Royal Lancashire Militia, c.1760. (C) Wiltshire Militia, c.1760, showing officer's shoulder knot. (D) Foot Guards, c.1760, showing wide gold lace loops. (E) & (F) Officers of the 21st Foot, showing blue collar-patch worn by this regiment, from portraits of Maj. Hon. Andrew Sandilands by Allan Ramsay, 1751, and Col. Edward Brumm, c.1760. (G) Field officer, 24th Foot, 1755. (H) Dorset Militia, from Reynolds portrait of Sir Gerald Napier Bt., 1763 — note blue 'V's' on lower sleeve. (I) Hatt styles. (J) Various cuff styles. (Gerry Embleton)*

ions; drummers' coats brown. One statement indicates that coats were red on one side, brown the other, the latter for active service in America. Coats remained brown at least until 1760; 1761 New York list gives light brown faced white, yellow buffons. Red coats received as early as 1760, with facings apparently of whatever cloth was currently available: orange-brown 1760 and 1763, plum-colour or yellow 1761, plum-colour 1762; portrait c.1763 shows officer's coat red with golden-orange facings. May 1759 exchanged muskets for 'carbines' with no bayonets, barrels blued or browned. Deserter descriptions in *New York Mercury* Aug. 1762 note white waistcoats with yellow buttons, long French breeches, blue surtout, outer-skin cap. (Presumably wore cut-down hats in light infantry style).

### 81st Foot (Lindores')

*Service:* Invalid regt. raised from veterans of Flanders campaign by Alexander, Lord Lindores, 1758; renumbered 71st 1763.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, no lace.

### 82nd Foot (Parker's)

*Service:* Invalid regt. raised by Col. Parker 1758, renumbered 72nd 1763, disbanded 1769.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, no lace.

### 83rd Foot (Sebright's)

*Service:* Formed Ireland, Oct. 1758, originally Invalid regt. but ceased to be such; Portugal 1762; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, no lace.

### 84th Foot (Coote's)

*Service:* Raised Jan. 1759 by Sir Eyre Coote: India; ordered home for disbandment but retained briefly in India, most subsequently entering East India Company service.  
*Uniform:* Black facings, officers' lace gold (portrait of Eyre Coote shows lace binding and loops); officers carried fusils, but espontoons purchased 1759; all carried swords; accoutrements tanned leather.

### 85th Foot (Craufurd's Volunteers)

*Service:* Formed July 1759 as 'Royal Volunteers' or Light Infantry by Col. John Craufurd; 2 bns.; Belle Isle, Portugal; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Light infantry uniform (2nd lieuts. instead of ensigns): red coat without lapels, blue collar and cuffs, silver loops (white for men), white lining, breeches and double-breasted waistcoat; hats cocked in manner of 'Henry VIII' with white feather plume, short black leather gaiters; pouch-belt much narrower than usual, waist-belt worn over shoulder, officers and men with hangers; officers had waist-sashes, buff cross belts; recorded as saluting differently from rest of army. Dean of Gloucester gave a flannel waistcoat to each man enlisted from county of Gloucester, on proof of skill of marksmanship. 1763 list states white facings, a later alteration in an error (white facings given 1760, though it is certain that blue worn at that time).

### 86th Foot (Worge's)

*Service:* Part of 2nd Bn. 76th which avoided wreck on Barbary coast became 86th 1760, Col. Worge; Senegal and Gambia; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Deep orange facings, brown linen lining, white lace with black stripe, white buffons; thread stockings.

87th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

88th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

89th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

### 90th Foot (Morgan's Light Infantry)

*Service:* Formed Dec. 1759, Irish regt. (Col. Henry Morgan 1759-62, Francis Grant 1762-63); Belle Isle, W. Indies; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Gainsborough portrait of Lt. Col. Holooyd shows green facings, including turnaround collar, narrow gold loops, white waistcoat and breeches; black cap with upright front bearing crowned harp, red sash.

### 91st Foot (Blayne's)

*Service:* Irish regt. formed Jan. 1760, disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Black facings.

### 92nd Foot (Gore's)

*Service:* Formed Jan. 1760; 'Donegal Light Infantry'; raised at expense of Ralph, Earl of Ross, Portugal 1762; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Black facings.

### 93rd Foot (Bagshaw's)

*Service:* Formed Jan. 1760, Irish regt.; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Grey facings.

### 94th Foot (Morgan's or Vaughan's Royal Welsh Volunteers)

*Service:* Formed Jan. 1760 by Col. Hon. John Vaughan; Belle Isle, America, W. Indies; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings.

### 95th Foot (Burton's)

*Service:* Formed Dec. 1760 in America

from Independent Coys.; Martinique; disbanded 1763.

*Uniform:* Light grey facings, white and green lace.

### 96th Foot (Manson's)

*Service:* Raised Jan. 1761; India; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Buff facings, no lace while in East Indies.

### 97th Foot (James Stuart's)

*Service:* Raised Jan. 1761; Belle Isle, W. Indies; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Glistening green facings; white and black lace.

### 98th Foot (Grey's)

*Service:* Raised Jan. 1761; Belle Isle, W. Indies; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Full green facings, white lace.

### 99th Foot (Byng's)

*Service:* Raised March 1761; disbanded 1763.

100th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

101st Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

### 102nd Foot (Wedderburn's, Queen's Own Royal British Volunteers)

*Service:* Raised June 1761, disbanded 1763.

### 103rd Foot (Oswald's)

*Service:* Raised Aug. 1761, styled 'Volunteer Hunters' (copied from Jagers?); disbanded 1763.

### 104th Foot (Tonyn's or King's Volunteers)

*Service:* Raised Aug. 1761 from Independent Coys., originally 6 coys., later 9; W. Indies; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings.

105th Foot: Highland regt.: see Part 3.

### 106th Foot (Barré's Black Musqueteers)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761, Ireland; home service, including quelling unrest in Cornish Stannaries; disbanded 1763.

*Uniform:* Black facings and helms, perhaps in memory of Wolfe, close friend of Col. Isaac Barré. Cap with brass front-plate bearing rampant lion over 'Steady'.

### 107th Foot (Beaucherk's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761; known as Queen's Own Royal British Volunteers; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Facings blue.

### 108th Foot (Macdougall's or John Scott's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761, disbanded 1763.

### 109th Foot (Nairn's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761; Belle Isle; disbanded 1763. Known for short time as London Volunteers Regt.

### 110th Foot (Deakin's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761, disbanded at end of war.

### 111th Foot (Ogle's or Warkworth's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761; disbanded at end of war. 1763 Army List notes 'pompadour' facings, evidently a different shade from the 56th's 'deep crimson' and 59th's 'light crimson'.

### 112th Foot (Markham's or King's Royal Musqueteers)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761, disbanded at end of war.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings.

### 113th Foot (Hamilton's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761, disbanded at end of war.

### 114th Foot (McLean's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761; disbanded at end of war.

### 115th Foot (Crawford's)

*Service:* Raised Oct. 1761; disbanded at end of war.

### 116th Foot (Ackland's)

*Service:* Formed 1762 as Invalid regt.; renumbered 73rd 1764, disbanded 1770.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, 'Hospital' uniform.

### 117th Foot (Cliffe's)

*Service:* Formed 1762 as Invalid regt.; renumbered 74th 1764, disbanded 1770.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, 'Hospital' uniform.

### 118th Foot (Lisle's)

*Service:* Formed 1762 as Invalid regt.; renumbered 75th 1764, disbanded 1770.  
*Uniform:* Blue facings, 'Hospital' uniform.

### 119th Foot (Fitzroy's or Prince's Own)

*Service:* Light infantry corps formed 1762, Col. Hon. Charles Fitzroy; disbanded 1763.  
*Uniform:* Red coat without skirts, facings appear green in contemporary painting but given blue elsewhere, white lace binding and loops, white waistcoat, grey breeches, short black leather ankle-gaiters laced up front. Black belt with white metal plate and comb, red horsehair mane, black peak with green underside, white-metal edge. Rolled blanket carried handover shoulder over left shoulder; no waist-belt, cartridge-box belt over right shoulder. In contemporary painting, one man carries what appears to be a short pike or espartaco, but has no other mark of rank (sergeant?).

**To be continued: Part 3 will describe and illustrate Highland and Ranger dress.** **MI**

### Footnotes:

- (12) See *The King's Own*, ed. L. I. Cowper, Oxford 1939, p. 535.  
(13) See *The 15th Foot in 1757*, J. A. Houlding, *JSAHR* LXIV (1986), p. 56.

### Sources:

A list of references will appear at the end of Part 3 of this series.



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## GALLERY

# Audie Murphy

STEPHEN L. HARDIN Paintings by KEVIN LYLES

It is one of the special ironies of 20th century life that reality and illusion can become so thoroughly mixed that the most decorated American soldier of World War 2 — an ultimately tragic figure — became known to millions not so much for his actual combat experiences, but through the Hollywood fantasies in which he later starred, including his own filmed wartime autobiography.

Audie Leon Murphy was born on 20 June 1924 near the North Texas farming community of Kingston, Hunt County. Even by the harsh standards of Texas during the Depression years the Murphys suffered more than most. When his sharecropper father abandoned his wife and nine children, young Audie took to the fields with a .22 rifle to provide rabbits, squirrels and other small game for the family pot — a responsibility which he later claimed developed his marksman's eye. Audie's formal education proved a hardship, and his schooling ended in the fifth grade. By his sixteenth birthday his family had all but dissolved: his father long gone, his mother dead, the older children married, and the younger ones placed in a local orphanage as wards of the state. His impoverished childhood scarred Murphy forever. In 1957 he recalled with some bitterness: 'You might say there never was a "peace time" in my life, a time when things were good... I never had just "fun"... It was a full time job just existing.'<sup>(1)</sup> Neighbours remembered Audie as a serious and hard-working teenager. Resourceful, determined, and bright, all he needed was an opportunity; and Pearl Harbor gave him the chance for which he longed.

Entering military service proved more difficult than Murphy expected, however. At the age of seventeen he stood just 5ft.5½in. tall, and weighed in at 112lbs; and the Marines

and the paratroopers both rejected him as too scrawny. The Army told him that he could re-apply on his eighteenth birthday, however; and in the meantime he gorged on vegetables — which he detested — in order to grow faster. On 30 June 1942, just ten days after his eighteenth birthday, he took his oath in Dallas and shipped out for basic training at Camp Wolters, south-west of Fort Worth.

Recruits are not supposed to enjoy 'boot camp'; but in Murphy's case it actually proved better than his desolate civilian life. He wrote to his sister: 'I like the army fine so far, they let yon sleep till 5.30. On the farm I had to get up at 4.00.'<sup>(2)</sup> Murphy had never before known the camaraderie, security and sense of worth which he found in the ranks. For the first time in his life he could boast, 'I had good food and I had good clothes'. He relished mastering new weapons, too; an instructor's delight, he discovered an infatuation with machine guns; and spent his free time field-stripping and cleaning his M1 Garand rifle. Indeed, about the only thing Murphy didn't like about basic training was his nickname: at eighteen he looked twelve, and it was inevitable that his DI would saddle him with the handle 'Baby'.

### OVERSEAS

Assigned to the 15th Infantry, part of the 3rd Infantry Division, Murphy shipped out for North Africa at the time of



After completing basic training at Camp Wolters, Texas, Murphy was sent to Fort Meade, Maryland for advanced infantry training. He posed there for this snapshot in December 1942; on the back he wrote 'On guard again'. Over the olive drab wool 1940 pattern winter service uniform for enlisted men he wears for guard duty the M1938 cartridge belt, canvas leggings, and M1918 steel helmet. He holds the M1 Garand rifle, with an old M1905 long bayonet fixed. The youthful appearance which earned him the nickname of 'Baby' is evident. (Texas Colln., Baylor University, Waco, TX)

the Operation 'Torch' landings in November 1942. He was not to make his first kill until his unit landed in Sicily, however; the 3rd Division landed around Licata on 10 July 1943, at the western end of Gen. Bradley's II Corps beachheads, and broke out north-westwards along the coast. As two mounted Italian officers were galloping away in view of his company, Murphy dropped to one knee, and coolly shot them both in the back. A lieutenant asked him why he had killed men who were obviously retreating. 'That's our job, isn't it?', he replied. 'They would have killed us if they'd had the chance.'<sup>(3)</sup> His buddies stopped calling him 'Baby'; henceforth he was simply 'Murph'.

During the campaigns which followed in Sicily and mainland Italy during 1943 and 1944 Murphy developed into the perfect combat infantryman. As one biographer noted: 'He was an equal opportunity soldier, killing snipers and machine gunners, knocking out tanks, capturing Germans on night patrols, directing artillery fire, doing everything the front-line combatant is required to do in order to take and hold ground...'<sup>(4)</sup> His aggressiveness sometimes aroused the anger of his officers; dressing him down after what he considered a needless fire-fight, one lieutenant-colonel angrily asserted that Murphy 'could not stay out of a

scrap at a Peace Convention.'<sup>(5)</sup>

Medals and stripes followed almost every action. After his division landed in the south of France in August 1944 Murphy was offered a battlefield commission. He refused, pleading embarrassment because of his lack of education, and unwillingness to leave his unit. His commanding officer did not take no for an answer, however; Col. Michael Paulick made him a deal. If Audie would agree to accept a commission he could remain with his Company B, 15th Infantry, and someone would be assigned to help him out with the paperwork. On 14 October 1944 Murphy finally pinned on the gold 'butter bar' of a second-lieutenant. If the brass believed that making him an officer would mellow his combative nature, they were mistaken in their man.

#### THE MEDAL OF HONOR

On 26 January 1945 Murphy found himself in command of Company B, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Division, in the miserable winter conditions of the Colmar Pocket. This salient of German-held territory west of the Rhine was held by Gen. Wiese's 19th Army, eight divisions strong. It had to be reduced before US Gen. Devers' 6th Army Group could force a crossing and exploit eastwards into the Saarland; the US 7th Army (Gen. Patch) attacked the salient from the north, and Gen. de Lattre's 1st French Army from the south.

After three days of constant fighting in the snow-bound terrain Co. B, 15th Infantry was down to 32 enlisted men and one officer — 2/Lt. Murphy. Despite its high casualties the remnant of the company was ordered to hold a position near Holzeilr. The German forces opposite this weak link attempted to roll over it, committing some 200 Panzergrenadiers supported by six tanks. Murphy ordered his men into the cover of woodland, remaining behind to protect their retreat and to direct artillery fire.

Climbing on top of an abandoned and burning M10 tank-destroyer — with ammunition still stowed in its turret racks —



Still a couple of weeks short of his 21st birthday, Lt. Murphy poses at Werfen Castle, Austria, the 15th Infantry's regimental headquarters, on 2 June 1945 — the day he was decorated with the Medal of Honor and the Legion of Merit, becoming the US Army's most highly decorated soldier of the war. (Texas Colln., Baylor University, Waco, TX)





Though none of his films were dross, Murphy (left) could rightly be proud of his rural role in *The Red Badge of Courage*. He played a young Union soldier facing up to the confusion, horror and fears of battle, and finally mastering himself. Although the studio's final cut was made without John Huston's approval, it remains much more faithful to the flavour of the original book than most historical films of the period. A major supporting part was played by Bill Mauldin, who in real life had accompanied the US Army in the field as a correspondent, and who had created the classic cartoon GIs 'Willie and Joe'. (Photo via Stephen Greenhill)

Murphy turned its pintle-mounted .50 calibre machine gun on the advancing infantry, and 'stacked them up like cordwood.'<sup>(6)</sup> Even with enemy troops charging headlong towards him he maintained communications via a field telephone. 'Where are they now?', he was repeatedly asked by the officer on the other end of the connection. 'Just hold the phone and I'll let you talk to one of the bastards', was his disgusted reply.<sup>(7)</sup> A sergeant called him from Company B: 'Are you still alive, lieutenant?' 'Momentarily, sergeant,' Murphy replied; 'and what are your postwar plans?'<sup>(8)</sup>

The German assault was pressed home. Two artillery

rounds slammed into the M10, and fragments wounded Murphy in the left thigh. He maintained his fire with the machine gun, dropping a number of enemy infantry at ranges of less than 50 yards. The enemy finally fell back; and Murphy, dazed and bleeding, slid down from his exposed position and staggered back towards his men. Moments later the blazing tank-destroyer blew up.

For his conduct in the Colmar Pocket Murphy was awarded his 33rd decoration — the Congressional Medal of Honor. He had received every combat decoration awarded by the United States Army, and was personally credited with the deaths of 240 of the enemy.

#### Postwar fame and frustration

At the close of hostilities V/Lt. Audie L. Murphy returned to Texas. Publicists inevitably flocked to exploit the deceptively boyish-looking veteran; the farmboy-to-hero angle made spectacular copy. Overnight he became 'the living, freckle-faced symbol of seven million reasons why the Jerries couldn't whip the Yanks'.<sup>(9)</sup> Hollywood sum-

moned him; and in the 1950s Murphy starred in a succession of formula Westerns. Although he denigrated his acting ability, and most of the film vehicles in which he was placed were completely forgettable, he did deliver creditable performances in the classic 1951 film made by John Huston from Stephen Crane's Civil War masterpiece *The Red Badge of Courage*, bringing obvious qualifications to the role of the green soldier facing up to his first battle; and in Joseph Mankiewicz's *The Quiet American* (1957), playing the idealistic young American agent opposite Michael Redgrave's cynical journalist in the adaptation of Graham Greene's novel set in French Indochina during the Vietnam war. In perhaps the strangest inversion of reality with fantasy he played himself in *To Hell and Back* (1955), the film version of his autobiography.

To most observers Murphy's was a classic American success story; but beneath the Hollywood veneer was a veteran suffering from what would now be recognised as post-combat stress syndrome. 'War robs you mentally and physically,' he once confided. 'It drains you. Things don't thrill you any more.'<sup>(10)</sup> In an attempt to recapture some of the exhilaration of combat Murphy — like so many other wartime soldiers unable to adjust to the rhythms of a peacetime world — began living on the edge. He gambled; started fist fights in public places; and never went anywhere without a loaded .45 automatic. Although his percentage of the take from *To Hell and Back* brought him nearly a million dollars, his screen career foundered, and by 1968 he was nearly destitute. On 28 May 1971 the 47-year-old Murphy was flying above Virginia on a business trip when the aircraft crashed into a mountain outside Roanoke, killing all on board. Audie Murphy was buried in Arlington National Cemetery — where, second only to that of President John F. Kennedy, his grave is the most visited. In death, the hero prevails. **MI**

Kevin Lyles' reconstructions on the back cover show: (Bottom right) Second-Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy, Company B, 15th Infantry, US 3rd Division, on 26 January 1945, the day he earned his Medal of Honor at Holzheim, France. The man-painted M1 steel helmet has the yellow single bar of his rank painted on the front, and the 3rd Division's blue and white striped square insignia painted on both sides. An olive drab wool muffler is worn with the M1943 field jacket, which is bulged out by its pile fabric liner. The divisional patch on the left shoulder is the only insignia. The marching M1943 trousers are knosed into the russet boots with double-buckle gaiter flap. He wears the M1936 web pistol belt with M1923 pistol clip and M1924 first aid pouches; the M1 russet holster for the M1911A1 .45 semi-automatic pistol is slung over his right hip. Murphy insisted on reproducing this costume exactly for the film of his autobiography.

(Top left) Murphy as he appeared on 2 June 1945 at Salzburg, Austria, the day he was decorated with the Medal of Honor and the Legion of Merit. The neck ribbon of the former covers the gilt rank bar and infantry crossed rifles insignia on the right and left collar points respectively of the olive drab wool service shirt; the necktie is worn in regulation style, tucked between second and third visible buttons; the rubrobleu divisional patch is sewn to the left shoulder only. No other insignia are worn, nor any decorations other than the Medal of Honor and the Legion of Merit. Murphy still wears the rusted man's black frame buckle on his narrow web trouser belt. The wool service trousers are bloused into double-buckle field boots.

#### Notes:

- (1) Audie Murphy, *You do the prayin' and I'll do the shootin'*, Modern Service, January 1956.
- (2) Murphy to Corinne (sister) and Poland Burns, 14 July 1942; quoted Harold B. Simpson, *Audie Murphy, American Soldier* (Hillborough, Texas, 1975).
- (3) Audie Murphy, *To Hell and Back* (Henry Holt, 1949).
- (4) Don Graham, *No Name on the Bull: A Biography of Audie Murphy* (New York, 1989).
- (5) David McClure, *How Audie Murphy Won His Medals*, MS, 10 October 1969, Texas Coll., Baylor University, Waco, TX.
- (6) Murphy quoted in Graham, see (4).
- (7) Murphy, *To Hell and Back*.
- (8) Murphy quoted in Austin, TX, *American Statesman*, 20 July 1945.
- (9) Sherman, TX, *Daily Democrat*, 15 June 1945.
- (10) Murphy quoted in Dallas, TX, *Morning News*, 16 September 1962.



# Audie L. Murphy



2 June 1945,  
Salzburg



26 January 1945,  
Holzeihr